

Island Bushwhacker

Volume 49 | Issue 4 | Winter 2021



Rugged approach at night. Photo by John Relyea-Voss

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 hope to be able 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. We will share details nearer the time.

Web Information

Web site: www.accvi.ca

Webmaster: webmaster@accvi.ca

Executive Meeting Minutes

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

National ACC Office

For new memberships and renewals, changes of address or other details, and booking huts, contact the ACC National office directly.

www.alpineclubofcanada.ca

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

Annual Membership Dues

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

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

Newsletter Editor: Janelle Curtis

High Points Editor: Anya Reid

We encourage submissions of items of interest to our membership, including articles and photos in months when the newsletter is published. Please email your submissions to newsletter@accvi.ca by the 25th day of the previous month.

Advertising shall be accepted at the discretion of the editor. All advertising shall be for products or services of direct interest to our membership.

Our Motto

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour is again live at the Farquhar Auditorium at UVic, January 23rd, 2022! [Learn more here](#).

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Reminder to Members:

Keep your membership up-to-date, so to as to be covered by the ACC's liability insurance. Keep your contact information current on ACC National's site, as it's from this master list that we download email addresses for mailouts.

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



Upcoming Get-togethers

Solstice Hike - Mount Manuel Quimper in the Sooke Hills, Sunday 19 December

<https://accvi.ca/events/solstice-hike-mt-manuel-quimper-in-the-sooke-hills/>

Our traditional seasonal celebration is back! Hike up to the lookout on Manuel Quimper via Mt Brule, with shared festivities en route.

The minimal allocation of daylight is enough for this relatively short hike, but please bring the 10 essentials, which includes headlamp.

Contact Erich at erich.schellhammer@gmail.com

Up-Island Cheer, Sunday 19 December

<https://accvi.ca/events/up-island-cheer/>

ACCVI members are welcome to join Christine Fordham, Janelle Curtis, Barb Baker, and Jane Maduke on a Christmas hike and social Dec. 19 near Parksville — a mid-island counterpart to the Christmas hike in Victoria.

We'll meet in the parking lot of Englishman River Falls Provincial Park, go for a bit of a forest jaunt (A1, at Hammerfest) then return for a social gathering (bring your own warm beverage of choice) at the picnic shelter at Englishman River Falls Provincial Park. Bring Christmas treats to share if you are so inclined.

Contact Jane at [jmaduke \(at\) me \(dot\) com](mailto:jmaduke@me.com).



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.

Dates	Trip
4 December	Townshend Ridge and the Amigos in the Sooke Hills (B1)
4-5 December	Newman Foraker Route -Mount Arrowsmith
12 December	Mount Prevost (A1)
18-19 December	Ski Touring, Ice Climbing, and Winter Camping
30 January - 6 February	Valkyr Lodge Skiing

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.

Dates	Course
5 January	Intro to Backcountry Skiing - online class
8-9 January	Intro to Backcountry Skiing - outdoor class

Education and Courses: <http://accvi.ca/programs/education/>.
Is there something you would like to see? Contact education@accvi.ca.
Please see the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming education events.

Executive Episodes:

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

I think it's a case of be careful what you wish for. When I ended my report in the autumn newsletter with a wish for rain, I didn't realise the weather gods were listening quite so intently! Sorry about that. My meteorological vocabulary is continuously growing this year with 'heat dome', 'atmospheric river' and now this week a 'parade of storms'. I hope wherever you are during these extreme events, you are safe and at very least enjoying the vibrant green of the forests. I won't risk adding a plea for what we want to happen next!



Happy forests after a stressful summer. Photo by Catrin Brown

Weather or not

Members have been enjoying a wide variety of trips and events over the last few months. Trips to Strathcona have included a climb of Elkhorn, a traverse of Forbidden Plateau and a multi-day trip on the Elk River Trail. Further south there have been tidal excursions on Denman Island, hikes on Mt Tzouhalem and several outings in the south Island on the peninsula and Sooke hills. Happily, we have been able to restart our TrailRider program to the delight of clients and porters. Early winter conditions have led to explorations of ice routes on Arrowsmith, though the fickle Island ice is behaving true to form and keeping us guessing for a while longer.



Early season attempt of N-F route on Arrowsmith. Photo by John Relyea-Voss

If you're wondering how to find out how all these trips worked out, here's the answer: <https://discourse.accvi.ca/c/trip-report/5> You can sign up for notifications sent to your email which inform you when a new report is posted. Click the little bell on the top right of the trip reports page and choose the level of information you want. Many thanks to the trip leaders and authors of these reports, they provide a great way for us to be connected and inspired.

On the education side, members have participated in a Remote First Aid Course and an avalanche transceiver practice. Upcoming events include workshops on snow-shoeing and back-country skiing. Keep an eye on the schedule for new events. Also, a reminder that you can claim up to 75% of the cost of a course in return for leading 2 trips for the club. See <https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/course-subsidies/> Deal!

Back to Swan Lake Nature Centre

From September, our monthly slide shows have resumed at Swan Lake in Victoria, and are now supplemented by a Zoom option for those further afield. This hybrid model is thanks to the purchase of some new technology and to the expertise of Roger Taylor, Neil Han and Martin Hofmann. The numbers attending in-person have been growing, a welcome trend. Peggy Taylor has resumed her role of organising and hosting the shows and is as ever doing a wonderful job making everyone welcome. Thanks to our speakers Stefan Gessinger, Colin Garrity of the Avalanche Centre and Rick Hudson for the welcome entertainment and education.

Our annual photo contest

Talking of a hybrid model, our photo contest this year was an extraordinary feat of managing audience participation simultaneously from near and far. Mary Sanseverino was our colourful emcee, and had put in untold hours behind the scenes to make the real-time sharing and voting on the photos run so smoothly. I think it fair to say that everyone present was wowed by the whole process. Mary is quick to credit the success to team effort and asked me to share thanks as follows: “*Brian Parsons (he gathered the photos); Roger Taylor (he ran the tech - flawlessly - on the night); Peggy Taylor (she handled organization); Neil Han (he set up the Zoom); Liz William (she was the vote scrutineer); Dave Suttill (he provided and staffed the goody table); and Ken Wong (he ran the front door check in). Without them I can assure you - this event would not have been possible!*”



Behind the scenes at the Swan Lake photo contest. Mary, Roger, Liz and Peggy tally the scores from screen and hard copy.

Photo by Catrin Brown

The photos themselves were of a stunning quality - can they really keep getting better every year? The full collection can now be enjoyed on our website: <https://accvi.ca/about/photos/>

One thing is for sure, pandemic or not, our members get out to some amazing places and capture the beauty in so many different ways. Thanks to everyone who participated by sharing your images from the last year.

I'll leave the last word on the contest to someone who wishes to be signed simply as "An Extremely Appreciative Member". His message:

Photo Contest Event Team

Just a quick but heartfelt thanks to the Team.

Untold work goes into this. It is remarkable how it all comes together.

Thanks for the time, the magic and the community.

Long winter evenings

As we approach the shortest day of the year, it means more evening time to catch up on indoor projects. We know there have been lots of terrific trips this year, so please take the time to share your tales and photos for the Island Bushwhacker Annual 2021. Full details of how to submit a report are on the website: <https://accvi.ca/programs/island-bushwhacker-archives/submissions/> The deadline is 31 January 2022, but the earlier they are received the better. Thank you.

Website updates

Our webmasters and various members of the executive are continuously upgrading and improving all aspects of our site. We have strengthened the connection between the main site and the discussion forum, and re-organised the main menus with a new drop-down selection "VI mountains". Many other pages have been updated, especially in the "Information for trip leaders" drop-down, and the "About Us" section.

Thanks to work by Jeff Beddoes following the receipt of donations to the club after summer camp, our webmasters have added a new page in the "About Us" section. This 'Make a Donation' page <https://accvi.ca/make-a-donation/> explains how prospective donors can i) qualify for an income tax receipt and ii) specify if and where they would like their money to be given within our programs. We hope this is helpful.

Upcoming events

We haven't felt confident to organise an indoor Christmas party this year, given the continuing uncertainty with health advisories. However, celebratory seasonal hikes are scheduled for 19 December in the south and up Island. Details are on the schedule.

Our popular AGM weekends at the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre at Mt Washington, enjoyed every year from 2013 -2020, will again not be possible in 2022 as the Centre is not open for bookings. Instead, we will couple the AGM with a 'Volunteer appreciation' evening at Swan Lake in early February. Details will be announced shortly.

Swan Lake slide shows are scheduled for Thursdays on 13 January, 10 March, and 14 April.

Executive events

The ACC-VI executive will next meet on 6 December 2021. Please send me any items you would like the committee to discuss. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the website [here](#).

Happy trails,

Catrin

Catrin Brown chair@accvi.ca

Access and Environment

By Barb Baker

The Comox Lake Main 7 km gate agreement that ACCVI has with Mosaic Forest Management will expire Dec 31, 2021. This gives access 24/7 at Cumberland to a large area east of Strathcona Park and west of Comox Lake with many Park & private land destinations of note i.e. Carey Lakes, Comox Glacier, Willemar Lakes to name a few. Conversations re expanding the area of this land use permit are going on this coming month. Stay tuned.

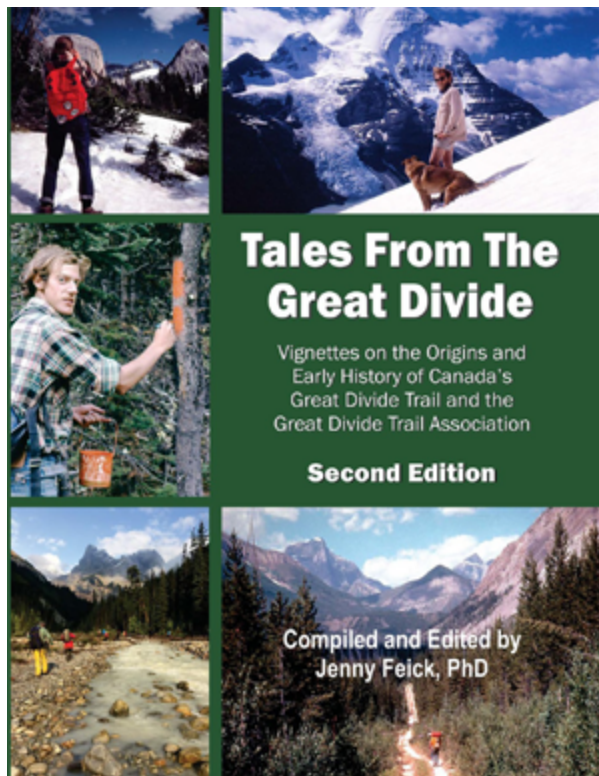
Recommendations: books and films about nature, wildlife, or mountaineering

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

Barb Baker and Roger Taylor suggested watching *14 Peaks Nothing Is Impossible* (2021) available on Netflix as a documentary. This is the film description from <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt14079374/> : "Fearless Nepali mountaineer Nimsdai Purja embarks on a seemingly impossible quest to summit all 14 of the world's 8,000-meter peaks in seven months."

JJ Wytrwal Posted on the VI Climbing and Mountaineering Facebook page on 8 September 2021: "For all those stuck locally and dreaming of far-flung adventures, check out this free 45 min documentary about ski-mountaineering in Pakistan: *Zabardast*. Absolutely stunning visuals and very much worth the watch. It's not all glitz and visuals, it's more of a harrowing view of what it really takes to ski these lines. I'm posting it here because it's a good mix of mountaineering and skiing (and also because my jaw dropped throughout)." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkigzUFR3ys>

Barb Baker also suggested *The Alpinist* which is available on Amazon Prime. In this film, Marc-Andre Leclerc climbs solo.



I have had the great pleasure of reading this amazing volume of work recently. Don't let the grand size scare you off as it is a great read about a great visionary project and a great trail concept that came to life in a group of can-do young people in the 1980s. Some of you may remember that Jenny Feick put together a slideshow presentation back in May 2020 – our first Zoom presentation – about her involvement with the original six, who put their feet to the ground searching for potential routes for this trail. The format using transcripts of storytelling get-togethers is a unique and enjoyable format and I gobbled up this book! Plus there are a ton of footnotes and extra reference materials that the reader can delve into if you want further information on related topics, people, places, legislation, environmental issues and impacts and other long distance trails. If you are interested in the history of the Great Divide Trail or long-distance trails in general you will certainly enjoy this book.

- Peggy Taylor

Here are some notes from Jenny (the editor): Tales from the Great Divide, Vignettes on the Origins and Early History of Canada's Great Divide Trail and Great Divide Trail Association is a self-published compendium of stories from individuals involved firsthand in the start and development of the GDT and the GDTA. First published in September 2019, Tales from the Great Divide brings to life the memories of many of the 'originals' whose vision, idealism, dedication, and hard work over five decades made Canada's Great Divide Trail a reality. Transcripts of interviews and storytelling sessions, combined with excerpts from letters and other documents and hundreds of photographs and illustrations, reveal the adventurous, heartbreaking, and hilarious moments that characterized the early history of the GDT. Devising and establishing a route for this wilderness long-distance trail along the crest of the Canadian Rocky Mountains demonstrated naive courage and optimism. These pathfinders faced personal hardships and their trail work took place at a time before lightweight gear existed and without technological aids such as GPS, inReach, cell phones, or satellite phones. In their quest to establish the GDT with a protected corridor, they confronted numerous threats and challenges.

The Second Edition of *Tales from the Great Divide* (416 pages, 300+ images) includes more than 100 pages of new material, including 100 additional images, and other enhancements. It also corrects errors found in the first edition after it was printed. This long-awaited second edition was completed in mid-June 2021 just as Jenny and her husband Ian Hatter moved from Victoria to live near Invermere in the Upper Columbia Valley.

There are three ways people can obtain a copy of the second edition of *Tales from the Great Divide*:

1. Order a [print-on-demand](#) version from Amazon for Cdn \$85.00 (rate in US\$ varies with the exchange rate) plus shipping (free for Amazon Prime members).
2. Arrange to purchase a printed copy directly in person from Jenny Feick, the editor, in the Invermere area for Cdn \$65.00 (shipping anywhere in Canada would cost \$20.00) by emailing jenny.feick@gmail.com. (Peggy & Roger Taylor may be visiting Jenny and Ian in Invermere sometime in the next 4 months, so we could bring back a copy or copies if anyone on the island is interested in purchasing one.)
3. Order a [PDF version](#) from the Nature Wise Consulting website for Cdn \$25.00 at <https://naturewise.me/consulting/product/tales-from-the-great-divide-second-edition/>

Leadership Awards Contest Enters Home Stretch

By KT Shum

There is roughly one month left before the contest closes but quite a number of eligible points have yet to be confirmed due to missing waivers. Cumulative Leadership Points in 2021 (as of November 30) are listed below, and the numbers in brackets indicate additional points from scheduled trips once waiver forms are received by librarian Tom Hall. So, please, leaders, send in the missing waivers to claim your rightful place in the contest (and prizes, including swags this year) and recognition for the efforts you contributed to the Sections' success.

Please contact leaderpoints@accvi.ca with questions or comments, including errors or omissions. Details of the contest can be found at accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/. Please remember to post trips and events on the schedule by emailing schedule@accvi.ca and send in waivers to our librarian at librarian@accvi.ca to ensure your points count.

Trip Leader	Verified Points	Trip Leader	Verified Points	Trip Leader	Verified Points
John Relyea-Voss	12.5	Mary Sanseverino	1.5	Jeff Beddoes	0.5 (5)
Derek Sou	9	Andrew Pape-Salmon	1	Jonathan Skinnider	0.5
Iain Sou	6 (3)	Caroline Tansley	1 (1)	Josh Slatkoff	0.5
Peggy Taylor	5.5	Casey Matsuda	1	Keith Battersby	0.5
Phee Hudson	5.5	Christine Fordham	1	Liz Williams	0.5
Rick Hudson	5.5	Ken Wylie	1	Mitchell Bayes	0.5
Gordon Kyle	5	Martin Hofmann	1 (1)	Nadja Steiner	0.5
Catrin Brown	4 (1)	Mike Hubbard	1 (5)	Peter Morgan	0.5
Mark Benson	4	Scott Collins	1	Rich Priebe	0.5
Dave Fishwick	3	Stefan Gessinger	1	Cal Veenstra	0 (5)
Janelle Curtis	3	Barry Hansen	0.5	Peter Gilbert	0 (4)
Louise Chabot	3	Brian Parsons	0.5	Shaun Peck	0 (5)
Roger Taylor	3	David Lemon	0.5		
Laura Darling	2	Gary Croome	0.5		

Numbers in brackets indicate additional points from scheduled trips once waiver forms are received by librarian Tom Hall at librarian@accvi.ca. These points do not include activities after 30 November.



Peggy's Personal leadership challenge

By Peggy Taylor

My husband Roger and I have been a members of the ACC and ACCVI for close to 20 years now! Hard to believe. We have been blessed to be part of this community for so long and have met people that have become cherished friends and we have shared so many incredible experiences in the hills and mountains that we never would have dreamed of had we not been part of this club! The vast majority of those experiences were because a leader was willing to put on a trip.

So when time and energy allowed, Roger and I, and Mike Whitney and I have posted trips on the schedule over the years to try to give back to the club that has given so much to us. Many trips have been in the local hills close to home (Victoria) because of easy access while we are still working. These trips, and indeed all trips, are the lifeblood of our club.



Peggy and Roger Taylor with Mount Albert Edward in the background. Photographer unknown.

During the pandemic, although official trips had to be suspended, many of us formed small hiking bubbles and carried on hiking as per Bonnie Henry's encouragement to stay active at a distance outdoors. But all outdoor clubs have suffered from this interruption and we all now find ourselves in a rebuilding process. So I wanted to send out a personal challenge to all previous trip leaders and indeed to all the membership of the club to get out and lead a trip. We have more members than ever and I know most of you have been and are getting out on your own trips with close friends and family. So I want to encourage those with leadership skills or local knowledge of hills and mountains in their areas on the island to consider putting a trip on the schedule in 2022. With over 700 members on the island now if everyone even put one trip on the schedule, what a year we would have!! Now I know not everyone can for various health, family or work reasons, but even if half or a third of our membership did, our schedule would be super full!

Yes, we are a mountaineering club, but we all love to be outdoors hiking, backpacking and scrambling too. So the trip need not always be a hair on fire, nail biting technical outing! So please consider offering one day trip to your favourite hill or set of hills, or easy non-technical mountain. This is also a good way for new members to make connections with other members and seek out potential hiking or climbing buddies. Those that have the technical mountaineering, skiing or snowshoeing skills we need too. But of course those types of trips need a higher degree of organization, skill, equipment and safety and both leaders and participants should have basic mountaineering and even more specific skills to participate, depending on the objective.

However, if we are out there hiking already, it is not too much more effort to schedule a day trip. So give it some thought and give it a whirl! You may find it to be very rewarding. Roger and I certainly have! There is the trip leadership incentive of winning a jacket, but for us that is not the motivating factor. We just love being outdoors, experiencing nature and the spirituality within nature and connecting with people who love nature, getting some exercise and challenging ourselves, not to mention the great views and occasional wildlife sighting.

If you are not sure how to start, there are tips on the accvi.ca website under Info for Trip Leaders: (<https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/>). We find a division of labour to be an excellent way to go about leading a trip. I often deal with the posting of the trip, answering emails, dealing with the waivers and submission of waivers, while my "co-leader" will be the actual leader of the hike doing the navigation while I sweep at the back. This is a nice way to spread out the work and have a couple of people assisting on the hike so that one person does not bear all the responsibility. With overnight, longer trips this is even more important as such trips are logistically more complicated.

If there are those in the club that would like to be co-leaders/mentors we can always use you and I am sure the executive would welcome your help!

SO LET'S BE PART OF THE REBUILD AND GET OUT THERE AND LEAD SOME TRIPS!

Thanks to all of you over the years that have inspired Roger and I....you are many. A big shout out to Peter Rothermel & Don Cameron who taught us so much in our early years in the club and led so many spectacular trips and courses. Thanks to all of you in advance who will take up the challenge ☺

Peggy Taylor



Historical Photos of ACCVI Members: ACCVI's women of the mountains, an historical look

By Pam Olsen

Gil Parker suggested this article with his remark in the Autumn 2021 issue of the Island Bushwacker Newsletter. In his report Historical Photos of ACCVI Members, he stated "The following pictures are mostly from my book, "Coast Mountain Men," and they are men from Vancouver Island or nearby. (Sorry ladies, I might have to produce another book.)"

After reading his remarks, I sent an email to Janelle Curtis suggesting a companion article for the newsletter about the "historical" women of the ACCVI. She liked the idea and kindly invited me to write an introduction.



***Founding Members of the Canadian Alpine Club, Winnipeg,
ca1907. Source: Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies***

In 1906 Elizabeth Parker was a co-founder of the ACC and women have been a part of the organization ever since. On Vancouver Island, female members of the Club have been climbing the mountains of the Island, other parts of Canada and the world for decades.

Here are stories and pictures of a few notable female members associated with Vancouver Island who have long since passed away.

Charlotte Jessie Bird "Birdie" Hadow, 1888-1935

Born at Mussoorie, India on 20 August 1888, Charlotte Marshall came to BC with her parents in 1909. In 1914 she married Erland Godfrey Hadow (1875-1917) and they lived in Revelstoke where he was employed as a civil engineer. He joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force and was killed overseas during World War 1. Birdie moved to Victoria around 1920. In 1929, she joined the ACC and was a strong supporter of the Victoria Section. She attended most of the outings over a long period, often accompanied by her daughter Audrey. She took great interest in promoting the Club house and camp project. An enthusiastic photographer, many of her photographs were featured in the Daily Colonist. In 1934 she made a monetary gift to the Section, which enabled the members to complete the finishes and painting of the Hut. During her

1935 travels around Europe and England she took many photographs and intended to show them to ACC members upon her return. Unfortunately she suffered a stroke while visiting relatives in England and died on 22 October 1935. Club members remembered her with affection and gratitude for her generous contributions to the Hut at the Lake of the Seven Hills [i.e. Shields Lake] in Sooke.

Sources: *Canadian Alpine Journal* (CAJ) v23, 1935 and *Daily Colonist* 23 October 1935.

Jane Dorothea Hay 1897-1949

Dorothea was born at Victoria on 22 November 1897. She graduated from McGill University in 1925 and worked as a teacher then as a librarian at Victoria High School until her retirement in 1948. She joined the ACC in 1931 and her love of the mountains brought her back to them many summers. Tragically she was killed on 2 November 1949. She had gone with friends to the opening of the Hope-Princeton highway. Near Hope, on the return journey from Allison Pass, the car left the highway and rolled into a deep ravine. Dorothea, and the two other passengers in the rear seat, were killed instantly.

Sources: *Canadian Alpine Journal* (CAJ) v33, 1950 and *Daily Colonist* 3 November 1949.

Dorothy E. Mitchell, 1890-1966

Dorothy was born at Toronto on 23 March 1890. She was an ACC member for over fifty years. She was the daughter of Henry B. Mitchell, a long time Club member and the niece of Stanley H. Mitchell, the Club's long-time Secretary-Treasurer. In 1914, at the camp in the Upper Yoho, she graduated on The President, and while she attended several subsequent camps in the early years, she did not attend camps in her later years, though she always retained a warm interest in the Club. After teaching for some years in Winnipeg, she went to Columbia University where she completed a post graduate degree. In the early 1920s she went to China, where she served the Anglican Mission in Peking. She returned to Canada frequently on furlough. On the last occasion in the early 1940s, it was considered that conditions in China were such that it was inadvisable for her to return. She relocated to Sooke where she continued to live until her death at Victoria on 28 June 1966. Sources: *Canadian Alpine Journal* (CAJ) v50, 1967 and *Winnipeg Free Press* 5 November 1925.

Constance Margaret Bonner, 1907-1995

Connie was born in Saskatchewan on 23 January 1907 and moved with her parents to Cobble Hill in 1912. Connie joined the ACC in 1941 and was a member for 51 years. Connie was a skilled mountain climber and won honours as an artist and photographer of Island scenes. She received her early training in art in Victoria, and also attended annual classes held each summer in Banff. She attended a number of ACC summer camps in the Rockies and Selkirks. An active photographer, she took part in the Club photographic competitions, where her pictures took awards.



C. Bonner painting. Source: Otto Küppers Auction Price Results, accessed 17 September 2021



She was an accomplished artist using many mediums in her work, ink, charcoal, oil, watercolour, pencil sketching, silk screening, print making, photography and commercial. An early member of the Vancouver Art Gallery, she became a member of the Federation of Canadian Artists in 1982. Her art was accepted in galleries all over North America. Many of her paintings are in private collections in British Columbia, Alberta and the United States. Connie passed away at Duncan on 2 February 1995. Source: *Canadian Alpine Journal* (CAJ), 1997.

Eleanor “Nell” Whellams, 1907-1998

Eleanor Rose Fraser was born at Vancouver on 13 July 1907. She joined the ACC the age of 20 and became a committed mountaineer. She married Jack Whellams (1917-1980) who was with the Lovat Scouts who camped in the Tonquin Valley, Alberta during World War 2. Both were members of the ACC. Nell was a long-standing member, having belonged to the Club for more than fifty years. As well as being a mountaineer, she was an artist. She is acknowledged for her contribution to the “Birds of British Columbia” series of books and her paintings are included in ACC publications. At the time of her death on 13 March 1998, Nell had been a long-time resident of Parksville where she was active with the Parksville and District Garden Club and the Arrowsmith Natural History Society.

Sources: *Canadian Alpine Journal* v82, 1999 and *Daily Colonist*, 24 August 1974 and 07 December 1975.



Nell Whellams. Source: CAJ v82, 1999



Gerta Smythe. Source: CAJ v92, 2009

Gerta Smythe, 1937-2008

Gerta Heher was born in Austria on 11 December 1937. Inspired at a young age by her father and other family members, she developed a passion for exploring the mountains. She completed her nursing training in Austria and at the age of 23, she immigrated to Jasper. She had heard that in Canada work could be found close to the mountains. She met Kenneth Smythe in Alberta and they were married in 1961. She was an accomplished mountaineer by the time the family moved to Victoria in 1971.



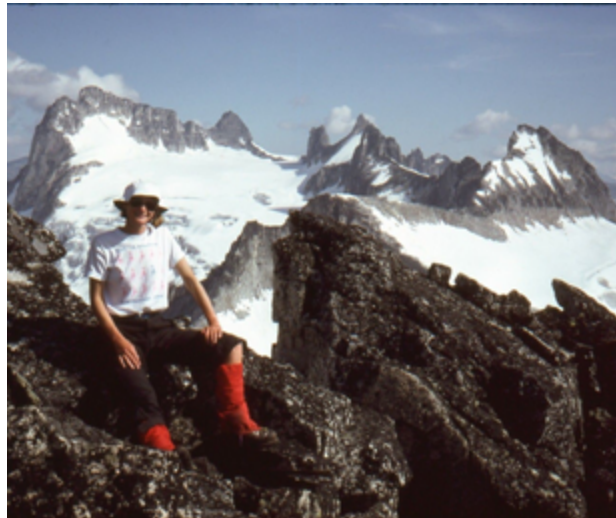
Gerta Smythe. Source: accvi.ca, accessed 17 September 2021

Gerta was an active member of the ACCVI and she was over fifty when she became the first woman to achieve the IQ distinction. She took part in expeditions to the Caucasus, Himalayas and Andes, as well as countless climbing and ski trips in BC. During her illustrious climbing career, she had scaled some of the highest peaks on five continents including the 6,768m summit of Huascaran in Peru at the age of 60. Her life was cut short by bone cancer and she died on 19 June 2008.

Sources: *Canadian Alpine Journal* (CAJ) v92, 2009 and *Times Colonist* 24 June 2008.

Biographical information about many deceased ACC members can be found at the CAJ website [here](#) and biographical information about some BC members, living and dead, can be found at the ACCVI website (accvi.ca/history-of-acc-vi-introduction).

Below are some pictures of current long time ACCVI members when they were younger and stronger.



Pam Olsen in the Bugaboos in 1984

Contributions about Gerta Smythe from Liz Williams:

My first trip with the Alpine Club was to the Stanley Mitchell hut in Yoho National Park. I was astonished at Gerta Smythe's 'mountain goat' capabilities! Below is her Obituary from the *Times Colonist*:

SMYTHE, Gerta Louise "Oma" (nee Heher) December 11, 1937 June 19, 2008 The Smythe Family sadly announces the peaceful passing of Gerta ("Oma") Smythe, after her brief struggle with bone cancer at the early age of 70. Born in the city of Gratz, nestled in the Austrian alps, Gerta developed an early passion for the alpine, even inspiring her father and other family members to take up mountaineering with her. At the age of 23 she came to Jasper in the heart of the Canadian Rockies to pursue a career in nursing where she could remain close to the mountains she had grown to love, and most importantly to start her family. She then moved to Victoria BC where she discovered the beauty of the ocean and the coastal and Island mountain ranges where she left no



Gerta on the Whaleback. Photo by Liz Williams

stone unturned as an active member of the Alpine Club of Canada. During her illustrious climbing career, our Oma" had scaled some of the highest peaks on 5 continents including the 6,768m summit of Huas-

caran in Peru at the age of 60. After retiring from nursing in 2002, Gerta has volunteered for the CRD as a warden of Mount Wells, a hill in her immediate vicinity near Sooke in Victoria. There she brought her grandchildren on her weekly hikes. Over the years, she had walked many of the hikes in the Greater Victoria area and the lower Island and was always happy to share these with newcomers to the area and club members. She leaves her loving husband & friend of 47 years, Kenneth Murdoch Smythe, and children Edward William (Brenda), Anthony Colin (Angela), Vincent James (Fern) and Maria Teresa. Her legacy will live on in all of her grandchildren whom she loved so dearly. Andrew, Jaimie, Jasper, Nicole, Emily, Victoria, Kairo, Paris and Dallas and her loyal hiking companion Brooke. She is also survived by her extended family in Austria and Germany including her siblings Maria, Franz, Edith and Vinzenz. During Gerta's difficult struggle with cancer, the Smythe family is grateful for the compassionate support of her many friends as well as the volunteers and staff members of the Hospice Society of Victoria. Following her passion for hiking, biking, skiing, mountaineering, swimming and knitting, Gerta developed numerous friendships all over the world that she will dearly miss and hopes to one day meet up with again on the loftiest height. Berg Heil My Friends! Memorial Service will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 798 Goldstream Avenue at 1:30pm on Friday June 27, 2008 with garden reception to follow at Ken & Gerta's Residence. Condolences and memories may be made to www.sandsfuneral.com. Flowers are gratefully declined, if friends so wish, donations in memory of Gerta Smythe may be made to the Alpine Club of Canada.

Contributions from Rob Macdonald about Julie Henderson:

Julie joined the ACCVI section in 1984. In 1993 she completed her IQ list with an adventurous climb on Mount Colonel Foster (along with Charles Turner and Dave Routledge). She was the first to organize winter ski camps. Starting in 1990 she organized two huts in the Esplanade Range for a club section ski week. All told, I count thirteen such ski Section Camps that she planned and organized - including to huts at Wells Grey Park, Kokanee Glacier, Blanket Glacier, Ruby Ridge in the Valhallas, Lake O'Hara, Assiniboine, Amiskwi, & the David Henry Lodge near Mt Robson. As a twosome, Julie and I have climbed many substantive peaks including West Ridge on Forbidden, the Wall Street/Exum route on Grand Teton, Wolf's Head and Pingora in the Wind River Range, East Ridge of Edith Cavell. Finally, she passed the Island's bushwhacking test and was on the first ascents of Grattan, Thumb Peak and The Thumb in the Alava-Bate Sanctuary.



***Julie on Burgers and Fries in Squamish in 1987.
Photo by Rob Macdonald***



***Julie and Rick Eppler on Mount Tantalus in 1987.
Photo by Rob Macdonald***



***Julie on Mount Colonel Foster with Charles Turner, having just completed her IQs in 1993.
Photo by Rob Macdonald***

Other historical photos from Rob Macdonald:



A whimsical image from a ski trip to Mount Monday in 1993. It's Barb Brooks, Rudy Brugger and Ian Brown playing the "hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil, three monkeys." We got snowed in and had too much time and not enough to do. Photo by Rob Macdonald.



Clockwise from left you have Ian Brown, Margaret Brown, Barb Brooks, Chris Holm, Judith Holm, Gerta Smythe, Rob Macdonald and Rudy Brugger on an attempted ski of Mt. Munday in 1993. A den of thieves if ever there were. Photo by Rob Macdonald.

Contributions from Sandy Briggs:



On December 9, 2007, a large group of friends skied up Mt. Becher with Gerta Smythe to celebrate her 70th birthday. Here's a picture of good friends Claire Ebendinger, Catrin Brown and Gerta Smythe on that happy occasion. Photo by Sandy Briggs



Here's a picture of Gerta Smythe making her joyful music on the summit of Victoria Peak on Saturday August 25, 1990. A month earlier Gerta and Murrough O'Brien and I had climbed Mt. Kazbek (5054 m) together as a rope of three on the wonderful trip to the Caucasus Mountains that Gil Parker had organized for us. Photo by Sandy Briggs

2022 Location for Summer Camp: Any Suggestions?

By Summer Camp Committee - Laura Darling, Liz Williams, and Jeff Beddoes

Greetings ACC Vancouver Island section members, Your Summer Camp Committee is in the process of finding a summer camp location for 2022 and we would really appreciate your thoughts by December 15th.

Finding a camp location that offers all members everything that they would like is, well, challenging – we have some walkers, some scramblers, some folks who love glacial travel, and some folks who love rock.

Camps need to be very near a water supply, ideally near snow for refrigeration, preferably in an isolated spot because we like our privacy. Being near a tarn or lake is a big bonus as many of the club members have this strange affinity for jumping into cold waterbodies. We seek locations that are not too far to access by helicopter from the nearest car accessible logging road (a flight of less than 30 km is preferred), and it has worked well if the staging area where we meet the helicopter is no more than a long day's drive from Victoria.

We need your input! We would really appreciate your suggestions for a Summer Camp 2022 location.

Three suggestions have been made so far:

- 1. A return to Athelney Pass***
- 2. The Mt. Seaton/Soprano Lake area***
- 3. The Tolkien Range north of Birkenhead Provincial Park***

A few comments about Athelney Pass, the Mt. Seaton/Soprano Lake area and the Tolkien Range follow. If anyone can provide additional commentary to the following it would be greatly appreciated.

Athelney Pass

Approximate location: 50° 46' 39.25 N, 123° 21' 49.81 W Camp elevation in alpine.

The club camped here in about 2011. Please see the following for more information on Athelney Pass:

<https://www.ubc-voc.com/2018/09/19/athelney-pass>

You can also find more information on Athelney Pass with a Google search.

Mt. Seaton/Soprano Lake Area

50° 34' 32.28N, 122° 17' 36.44 W, elevation 6860 feet

There are lots of objectives close by with peaks and ridges surrounding the potential camp within 1 - 2 km and many peaks, ridges and lakes between 2 - 6 km and beyond for the adventurous.

The Tolkien Range north of Birkenhead Provincial Park

50° 31' 20.43 N 122° 41' 20.90" W, elevation 6670 ft

Though it looks lovely, there might be an issue with this location as UBC's Varsity Outdoor Club has a cabin in this general area. At the moment, we do not know how well used this cabin is. Also, a bear feeding area is located near the VOC cabin and the Varsity Outdoor Club close their cabin from August 15 - October to give the bears room and to help prevent any bear-human encounters.

Please send your thoughts and comments to summercamps@accvi.ca by December 15th.

Looking forward to your input. Thank you.

Searching for ACCVI Members or Non-Members to present at our Swan Lake, In-Person slideshows and/or online Zoom slideshows

By Peggy Taylor

Covid has put a damper on our club activities, and it is a bit more challenging to find presenters of late! So I am looking for members who have been on interesting trips, summer or winter, in the hills or mountains, whether on Vancouver Island, in BC, elsewhere in Canada, the north or internationally, in recent years or even years ago prior to the pandemic. Presentations can be about trekking, backpacking, climbing, skiing, snowshoeing, cycling trips in mountainous areas, mountain-biking or other mountain cultural trips. Or if you belong to a naturalist, environmental, wilderness, geographical or similar organization that has interests in mountain landscapes, animals, flora and fauna and the like that you think our membership would have an interest in, then we are looking for you too. Or if you know of someone that has done an interesting trip then please send them my way. I am always looking for unique and different journeys and adventures in the mountains and this is a superb way for folks to share those stories with our membership, so that we can revel in our collective passion for the mountains!

Please contact Peggy Taylor (ACCVI Slideshow Co-ordinator) at peggyhiking@gmail.com if you are interested in doing an in-person presentation.

This leads me into the second part of this announcement. I was surprised to look back and see that I have been organizing these monthly slideshows since September 2011! Hard to believe and where does the time go? It has been so much fun finding great stories and being in the audience enjoying so many members' amazing journeys and learning about all things mountain for so many years. However, with having a computer job, the extra time on the computer at home is wearing on my body, and I need to pull back.

So after June 2022, I will be retiring from organizing the slideshows. So if there is anyone in the club interested in taking on this volunteer role starting in September 2022, please contact me at peggyhiking@gmail.com or Catrin at chair@accvi.ca.

Currently I am storing the club laptop, projector, cam, mic, stand and various cables here at home. So any volunteer would need to be able to store those at their home. It all fits in a medium sized knap-sack style carrier, so not too much room is required! I would of course also give you any leads that I have on potential speakers for the fall of 2022.

Thanks to all the amazing presenters over the years that have contributed their time and effort in putting together some amazing presentations for us all to experience! It is time for new blood, so I look forward to passing along the role to the next generation and hearing from that special person who will take us forward.....

I hope to shift to leading more local hikes and some hikes and/or easy scrambles up island in 2022 and beyond. My back will appreciate that form of volunteering much more. See you in the hills and mountains :)

Most gratefully, Peggy Taylor

Landscape View: It's good to be here!

Avalanche Canada takes on the Vancouver Island forecast region

By Colin Garrity

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.

Raising a glass to VIACS

Uncertainty has always been a part of winter on Vancouver Island. Some years it snows so much the lifts can't open, other times it's the rain shutting things down. It goes with the territory here and as a result, Islanders are pretty good at managing an uncertain winter.

For the dedicated team at the Vancouver Island Avalanche Centre Society (VIACS), weather was not the only uncertainty. Over the past 15 years, they steadfastly published high quality avalanche forecasts with limited resources, raising money through what VIACS co-founder Jan Neuspiel has referred to as the "bake sale model." Volunteers held fundraisers and hired professionals to create the forecasts. Despite the limitations, the VIACS forecast was an immense resource to the Island's backcountry community. It says a lot about the character of the people who made it all happen.

Enter Avalanche Canada

This winter, Avalanche Canada will produce avalanche forecasts for Vancouver Island. While we can't control the weather, our program will reduce some of the uncertainty for backcountry recreationists here. We are very grateful for the work VIACS put in over the years. Starting our program would be a lot more daunting if we couldn't stand on their shoulders like we are today.

Until this year, Avalanche Canada lacked the resources to take on forecasting for Vancouver Island. When the BC Government announced a \$10 million, 10-year grant to Avalanche Canada in May, one of our first priorities was to establish a field team here and begin forecasts for the Island. This funding gave us the stability we needed to commit to the Island for the long-term.

There are many benefits to being under the umbrella of Avalanche Canada. Island forecasts will have the same look as elsewhere in Canada. The staff at AvCan HQ can help with outreach, media relations, social media, and special messaging. As a field team, we will rely on Revelstoke for 'big picture' thinking so we can focus on our field work. Revelstoke forecasters will also travel to Vancouver Island periodically to ensure everyone on the team has a solid grounding in our local terrain, weather, and snowpack characteristics.

The Vancouver Island Field Team

Why is forecasting on Vancouver Island such a tough nut to crack? Put simply, it's data sparse, which means the high volume of professional avalanche observations in many of AvCan's other regions simply doesn't exist here. While there are a few dedicated avalanche professionals on the Island, a daily forecast requires a steady stream of high-quality data. Enter the field team.

Local field teams have become integral to Avalanche Canada's forecasting program since 2011, when the South Rockies team was established. This winter, Avalanche Canada will have teams in six regions across the country. They fill in knowledge gaps where professional data is lacking, and are a crucial ingredient of the forecasting formula in these regions.



Vancouver Island field team. Photos by Alex Cooper

Our Vancouver Island field team will be out in the field for about four out of every six days this winter. We picked up some stellar local talent for the team. Long time VIACS forecaster Bill Phipps and Mt. Washington patroller Karina Bakker bring their local expertise, and I bring five years of experience working as an AvCan forecaster. We think it's a winning combination and we're excited to get out into the Island Alps soon.

We'll divide our missions according to the needs of the forecast office in Revelstoke, as well as our team's assessments of where there's overlap between unstable snowpack conditions, significant terrain use by the community, and the ability to fill gaps in our understanding of the snowpack. The overlap component is pretty important. Avalanches aren't really significant if they happen where no one's around, and crowds aren't an issue if there's no avalanche terrain. We have snowmobiles to get us deep into the backcountry, and skis to travel in non-motorized zones like Strathcona Park and in tricky pieces of terrain elsewhere.

Outreach is a crucial part of field team work and we're excited to build connections with the backcountry community. Many Islanders have great memories of the Party for the Forecast, which was put on by VIACS for many years to help fund their forecasts. We're stoked we have a few more resources to put towards events like this one, and Backcountry Fest at Mt Cain. We're really excited to see what we can put together with groups such as the ACC, snowmobile clubs, ski hills, and anyone else who has a great idea that will draw a crowd, safely. We want to pick up where VIACS left off, continuing their mission to make avalanche safety an ingrained part of backcountry culture on the Island.



Looking forward

There's a lot to be excited about when it comes to Avalanche Canada's new Vancouver Island program. By the end of December, we expect the region to have a daily forecast, meaning the Island will have the same forecasting frequency as other regions in western Canada. Islanders will be able to access the most up-to-date avalanche information possible. Forecasts will have the same format as elsewhere in BC and Alberta, which makes it easier to integrate other features of AvCan's website—like the Mountain Weather Forecast, Forecasters' Blogs, and the Mountain Information Network—into your daily process.

Not everything will be a huge change and many pieces of VIACS' strategy are definitely here to stay. Having local field technicians with strong connections to the professional and recreational community are important parts of our program as well. Another key initiative is to build on the strong inroads VIACS formed with the snowmobiling community under the leadership of Ryan Shelly. We want to ensure the benefits of Avalanche Canada's presence here make their way to everyone in our backcountry community.

Whether it's in a parking lot or on a mountain top, come say hi if you see us out in the field. We look forward to meeting you out in the mountains!



Descent from the hut. Photo by Nadja Steiner submitted to the ACCVI 2021 Photo Competition - Winter Activity category

Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF) ***Update (December 2021)***

By Laura Darling

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!! The perfect gift for friends or family!

The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour is again **live** at the Farquhar Auditorium at UVic, January 23rd, 2022! This event is an important fundraiser for the ACCVI - please support the section!

ACCVI is hosting a 2 pm matinee and a 7 pm evening show.

News flash: The matinee and evening shows will be **DIFFERENT** programs. And these in-person video screenings are **UNIQUE** and different from on-line/virtual programs offered through ACCVI.

Watch our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/accvi>) and the ACCVI Events schedule (<https://accvi.ca/events/>) for program details.

Tickets are \$30 and are available at the UVic Ticket Office.

Tickets are also available online: <https://tickets.uvic.ca/TheatreManager/1/tmEvent/tmEvent2986.html>

Watch a selection of fabulous films from the 2021 film festival. Epic journeys, monumental adventures, scenic locations, cultural exploration, personal stories, overcoming obstacles, passion and determination, fear and exhilaration, leading, exploring, climbing, hiking, kayaking, swimming, mountains, rivers, valleys, deserts and so much more to see!!

Also - find out more about the **online** BCMFF programs from the ACCVI Events Schedule: <https://accvi.ca/events/>, and rent or gift programs through this ACCVI unique affiliate link: <https://filmfest.banffcentre.ca/?campaign=WT-151882>



The Good Stuff: Skiing at 5040

By Finn Steiner

Here I was, cursing in the dark. I had managed to stub my toe. This tends to be a common occurrence for me, but on this occasion, I had my partner Christy in stitches. After talking up 5040 peak's ski potential for nearly a year, we had finally gotten ourselves organized in between school, work, and other pursuits, to head up to the mountain we could practically throw a stone at from our Ucluelet home. I found myself



trying to keep up on the skin in, with a mortally wounded ego and certainly bruised toe, looking up at the Cobalt Lake basin in the morning light.

The injury had been sustained prior to the 5-kilometer hike up the logging road in the dark, because we had figured that spring skiing needed early mornings - and, apparently, myself wearing flip flops on the drive up and closing the truck door on them was included in this plan. My mid-morning reflections were interrupted by a scraping sound - Christy's splitboard had lost its edge, and she began the slow, icy, slide down to the lake. Figuring it was my turn to get some revenge, and I pulled out my camera and began dutifully recording the moment for posterity. Once the moment had passed, I dropped down to her and we paused, breath hanging in the air, and took in the absolute silence that surrounded us. Muffled by snow, the sun had cast golden patterns of light dancing across over the stunning vista of Triple Peak, and Barkley Sound far off in the distance. After a gourmet snack consisting of goldfish crackers and M&M's, we continued up our last push in towards the hut.

It was just past 10 a.m. when we broke onto the snowy knoll the 5040 hut is located on. Finding the hut proved to be more of a challenge than I had predicted, as nearly five meters of snow had barely left the top windows exposed! Waiting there was a familiar figure, a small lady with an infectious laugh and prodigious experience in the mountains. She also happened to be my mom, and after taking the



time to receive appropriate sympathy for my incurable toe, we continued up towards the peak. 5040, Located on the edge of Vancouver island's Barkley Sound, receives an incredible amount of snowfall annually. A combination of large scale and localized weather phenomena conspire to keep this peak shrouded in the white stuff until July in most years; it also has the advantage of having fantastic ski touring with views of the expansive Pacific Ocean, not unlike more well known routes in Alaska, Kamchatka, and Japan.



By 11 a.m, we topped out and were ready for the first lap. With low avalanche conditions, a fairly consistent ice crust, and brilliant, sunny weather that had us in base layers and sunglasses, we had pretty much everything checked off as expected for our spring adventure. Christy clipped her board together, I finished fiddling with my skins, and Nadja took the first line.

The thing I love about spring skiing is the long days, sunshine, and that one is usually in shape from the rest of ski season! Over the next three laps, I even forgot to complain

about my devastating injury, as one sunny lap blended into another. These spring trips are just that - memories made with people who share the same love of early mornings, mountains, and getting snow down their pants after an epic wipeout.

By four O'clock, the shadows had begun to lengthen, and we packed up our gear and headed down the hill. The lovely part of backcountry at 5040 is that the majority of the route is skiable, save for an hour-long boot pack through the steepest section. After navigating said section, it is a relatively straightforward, hour-long, ski/slide out. After reconvening at the trailhead, buzzing with the high that comes after a full day in the mountains, we followed the setting sun out the logging road, alongside the Kennedy River, and found our way to the brewery in Ucluelet to tell tall tales of adventure amongst the surfers.



Portrait View: ACCVI Chair

By Catrin Brown

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

“Off they go, and I must follow for I am their leader” seems pretty apt for the role of Chair of the ACC-VI executive committee. Given our executive group of dedicated, creative and lively volunteers, I’m not even sure ‘leader’ is the correct term. Cheer leader is more like it.

Supporting and encouraging from the sidelines is pretty much what I have been doing as Chair for the last 6 years. That’s 6 of the 5 years I informally promised myself I would give it. (The middle of pandemic closures last year didn’t seem like a good time to make a change.) The job came without a manual or idiot’s guide, and even now I’m not sure I could write one. It’s a pretty amorphous role, mostly a case of responding to needs and finding ways to continually strengthen our community. And although there are days when if this was a real job I would quit, by far and away the majority of the time it’s good energy.

The name-sake part of the role, planning and chairing the executive meetings, is in some ways the easiest. We get together - room or Zoom - approximately every 6 weeks, share updates and make decisions for matters such as policies, finance or new initiatives. Between meetings I keep a running tally of things that come up that need airing with the group. There are 18 people on the executive, and an equally long list of volunteer coordinators, nearly all of whom are busy with well-defined responsibilities. This tends to mean that curve balls and new ideas looking for a champion often land on my lap(top). And we’ve had a few of both of those in my time.

Let’s start with recent history and the pandemic. Talk about a curve ball. How do you keep a community alive whose very *raison d’être* is to bring people together for shared activities, when health orders restrict all such gatherings? How do you maintain a recently opened and fully-booked hut when its guests cannot come and its source of income is cut off? The answer of course is with a certain amount of difficulty, and it’s probably no coincidence that we had more executive meetings in the darkest Covid times than normal. There is no need to itemise the details here, suffice that we found ways to keep our community connected, our bank books balanced and our plans for the future intact. Strange to say, our membership has never been stronger.

As for new ideas, well they keep coming. We have added a Family Week to our pre-existing 3 weeks of summer camps, supported by youth bursaries from the section. There is a special energy that develops from this shared remote experience for these groups of parents and off-spring, or other inter-generational combinations, which bodes well for the future. We have added a new award to recognise the mountaineering achievement of members who successfully climb all 53 Island peaks over 6000’. The ‘Charles Turner Vancouver Island 6000’ers Award’ honours the memory of the first person in our section to complete this quest, and the recipients - currently 5 - are celebrated on a new page on our website. We have worked to increase the diversity in our section, embracing trips for specific groups of people who may otherwise not feel confident to join in our programs.

Our communication channels continue to flow with the current of changing times. We have added a discussion forum (using the platform Discourse) to our website, so we can connect and interact online on our own terms. The Island Bushwhacker Annual is now published in full colour - and what a quantum

leap in enhancement that is. On a more mundane level, I try to keep the membership informed of activities through Chair reports in the newsletter, membership emails and constant updates to the website.

An important aspect of the role is outreach and representation of our section's interests in the bigger picture of the outdoor recreation environment. Inevitably, this means engaging with the ongoing challenges of access and conservation on the Island - which can involve letter writing, meetings, interviews or presentations. A few years ago we changed our relationship with the Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C. from section membership to donation, which has allowed us to donate more diversely to advocacy and conservation groups on the Island.

What has undoubtedly been the biggest initiative of my time as Chair is something for which I have been little more than a spectator, albeit with a front row seat. As our hut on 5040 Peak, Hišim'yawił, took shape from vision to plan to construction, I almost got whip lash from the pace of the project. This is a story all of its own which is deservedly recorded elsewhere. It is one of the best examples of the power of positive energy and human collaboration that I have ever witnessed. What a privilege.

Privilege is actually a recurring theme for much of what I have felt as Chair. Starting with the privilege of inheriting the role from a long line of remarkable people - role-models in the true sense. Leading to the privilege of what I have been able to experience and learn working with the executive committee, the team that makes it all happen. And now I look forward to the privilege of passing on the baton to a new Chair. This role, perhaps as much as any, is largely determined by how a person chooses to shape it, and it will soon be time for a new face and a new voice for our section. I wish them much joy with the role - especially with the curve balls and new ideas that keep it all so interesting!



An executive family barbecue in July 2021, the first time we'd been able to get together for over a year. As well as being generous volunteers, our executive members are busy people, between them celebrating six marriages and five births during the last few years.

Left to right outer circle: Martin (almost), Erich, KT, Derek, Liz, David, Pat, Ian, Tom (sitting), Mike, Jane, Alcina; inner circle: Helen, Joanne, Janelle, Colleen, Karun with Annabel (the star of the show).

ACCVI 2021 Photo Competition Results

By Mary Sanseverino

The 2021 ACCVI Photo Competition (Thursday, Nov 4) was an evening of ooohs, ahhs, laughs, and more than a few good stories. This year we tried something a bit different: both in-person and online viewing and voting. I'm pleased to say that all the Internet deities cooperated – they must have been properly propitiated – because it all went off quite well.

A huge thank you to everyone who sent in photos. It was such a pleasure to get a peek into the mountain life of so many ACCVI members. Your contributions gave us yet another reason to celebrate the mountains!

And, another big vote of thanks to the audience - both in person and via Zoom. All of the categories were tightly contested, making everyone's vote (both online and in-person) key to selecting the winners. Thank you for coming out!!

Perhaps the biggest vote of thanks should go to the Photo Comp Event Team: Brian Parsons (photo wrangler); Roger Taylor (he ran the tech - flawlessly - on the night); Peggy Taylor (she handled organization); Neil Han (he set up the Zoom); Liz William (she was the vote scrutineer); Dave Suttill (he provided and staffed the goody table); and Ken Wong (he ran the front door check in). Without them I can assure you, this event would not have been possible.



Winner - Winter Activity

Rugged approach by night by John Relyea-Voss

As for me - Mary Sanseverino – as the host I mostly stood and talked – but, as a retired university professor standing and talking is something I can do for hours!

So, without further ado - here are the links you've all been waiting for - all the photos, all the winners, and all the honourable mentions::accvi.ca/about/photos/



Honourable Mention - Winter Activity

Reconfiguration of Cerise Creek from the rock slide on Mt. Joffre by Margaret Brown



Winner (tie) - Winter Activity

Blair Piggot descending

Robson Glacier

by Jim Everard

Winner (tie) - Winter Activity

Descent from Barlow

by Jane Maduke



Honourable Mention - Winter Activity

Kluane by Brian Norwick



Honourable Mention - Humour
Alcoholic skinny dipper with a hiking problem by Mary Sanseverino



Winner - Humour
A tale of lost soles by Shaun Peck



Winner - Mountain Scenery
Tombstone sunset by Brian Norwick



Honourable Mention - Mountain Scenery
Tombstone reflections by Carmen Zitek



Winner - Nature

Alpine owl by Emily Bennett



Honourable Mention - Nature

Reflection on a message by Jim Everard



Honourable Mention - Vancouver Island

Milky way over Triple Peak by Chris Neate



Winner - Vancouver Island

5040 Snow cave ski touring by John Relyea-Voss

ACCVI History 1932

By Lindsay Elms

1932 ACCVI Executive: Chairman - Arthur Wheeler; Vice-chairman – William Dougan; Secretary – Guy Shaw; Treasurer - Gordon Cameron; Executive Committee – Claude Harrison, Robert McCaw, Mrs. E. Posgate, and Kenneth Chadwick.

Events:

March 5 – Club trip to Mt. Jefferson.
March 13 – Club trip to Mt. McGuire.
March 19 – Club trip to Sooke Canyon.
March 25 to 28 – Club camp at Lake of the Seven Hills.
March 30 – Club's 26th annual banquet at Beach Hotel.
April 3 – Club trip to Mt. Prevost.
April 17 – Club trip to Cougar Lake, Sooke Hills.
April 23/24 – Club reconnaissance camp to Lake of the Seven Hills.
April 30/ May 1 – Club trip to Mts. Maxwell and Bruce, Saltspring Island.
May 8 – Club trip to Jocelyn Hill.
May 14 – Club trip to Mt. Work and picnic at "Killarney Lake."
June 3/4/5 – Opening of club hut at the Lake of the Seven Hills.
June 18/19 – Club trip to Mount Braden.
June 23 to 26 – Club trip to Mount Trap.
July 1/2/3 – Club trip to Lake of the Seven Hills.
July 9 to 19 – Summer camp to Forbidden Plateau.
July 31 – Club trip to Mount Tzouhalem.
August 19/20/21 – Club trip to Mount Arrowsmith.
September 2 to 5 – Club trip to Sproat Lake cancelled. Three-day camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills instead.
September 11 – Club trip to Mt. Newton and beach picnic.
September 17/18 – Club trip to Lake of the Seven Hills.
September 24 – Club half-day trip to Mt. Helmcken.
October 2 – Club trip to Partridge Hills.
October 10/11/12 – Thanksgiving Weekend Club camp at Lake of the Seven Hills.
October 22 – Club trip to Saddle Hills.
November 11/12/13 – Club trip at Lake of the Seven Hills.

Section members who attended the ACC annual summer camp at Mount Sir Donald: Arthur Wheeler, Sir Charles Delme-Radcliffe, Mr. and Mrs. E.C. Posgate

Y.W.C.A. NEWS

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday February 7, 1932, p 11.

Next Saturday [February 13] the Hiking Club will be off to Mount Douglas, leaving the Y.W.C.A. at 2 o'clock. The hikers are asked to come warmly clad and to bring their lunch. The Tri-Y Welcome Club met last Thursday night [February 4]. Mr. Claude Harrison, of the Alpine Club, gave a talk on places of interest in Victoria.

ALPINE CLUB TO RESUME CLIMBS

Active Season's Work Drawn Up At Session Of Outings Committee

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday February 20, 1932, p. 5.

A number of previously unexplored districts will be visited by the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of

Canada during the next eight months. An interesting years' programme was drawn up at the meets of the outing committee, held at the office of the convener, Claude L. Harrison, on Thursday [February 17], when the following expeditions were fixed, with Mr. C.L. Harrison, Guy Shaw and K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick as expedition leaders: Saturday, March 5, Mount Jeffrey; Sunday, March 13, Mount McGuire; Saturday, March 19, Sooke Canyon; March 25-28, inclusive, Shower Camp, Lake of the Seven Hills; Sunday, April 3, Mount Prevost; Sunday, April 17, Cougar Lake, Sooke Hills; April 23-24, Reconnaissance Camp, Lake of the Seven Hills; April 30-May 1, Mounts Maxwell and Bruce, Saltspring Island; Sunday, May 8, Mount Jocelyn [Jocelyn Hill]; Saturday, May 14, "Killarney" Lake, picnic, and Mount Work; June 3, 4, 5, opening day at The Hut, Lake of the Seven Hills; June 18-19, Mount Braden; June 23-26, Mount Trap; July 1-3, Lake of the Seven Hills; July 9-19 – Summer Camp, Forbidden Plateau, near Circle Lake; Sunday, July 31, Mount Tzouhalem; August 19, 20, 21, Mount Arrowsmith; September 2-5, Sproat Lake; Sunday, September 11, Mount Newton and beach picnic; September 17 and 18, Lake of the Seven Hills; Saturday, September 24, Mount Helmcken; Sunday, October 2, Partridge Hills and Thanksgiving Weekend Camp at Lake of the Seven Hills; Saturday, October 22, Saddle Hills; November 11, 12, 13, Lake of the Seven Hills. The annual dinner will take place at the Beach Hotel on March 30, with the club president, A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, presiding.

ALPINE CLUB ENJOYS SECOND EXPEDITION

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday March 15, 1932, p. 7.

Fifteen members and guests of the Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Island section, ascended Mount McGuire on Sunday [March 13], the second highest ascent of the season. The party left the meeting place at Bastion Square by automobile at 9. a.m. promptly, and took to their feet an hour later, at Anderson Cove, East Sooke. The 850-foot ascent, conducted by Tom Goodlake, was made for the most part, through thick bush and salal. The party lunched by the banks of a small stream and returned to the cars at 2:30 p.m. They then adjourned to Rocky Point where they were entertained by Mrs. Frank [Sylvia] Holland at the picturesque old Holland Farm.

ALPINE CHALET IS PICTURESQUE

New Hut At Lake Of The Seven Hills Visited By Hiking Parties During Holiday

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday March 27, 1932, p. 2.

Beyond the skyline of the Sooke Hills there is rapidly nearing completion one of the most picturesque, spacious and durable lodges ever erected at such an altitude in that part of the Island. This is the chalet the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada at the Lake of the Seven Hills. Members and friends of the club who visited the camp during the holiday week-end found that such great progress had been made since the previous scheduled club visit, that although the official opening is not due to take place until June, it is obvious the building will be in use many weeks before this time. Walls, flooring, stairways and some of the trimmings are now practically complete, and provided the weather is favorable the next fortnight should see the work finished. A small working bee was held at the camp yesterday which effected appreciable additions, and several parcels of useful camp equipment were received as the result of the Easter "shower."

Two-Story Chalet

Gradually the campus is assuming a well-established air. Dominating the picture is the two-story chalet, of heavy upright cedar logs, with wide windows and doors surmounted by horizontal logs. The main lounge, opening off a covered veranda, will have an enormous stone fireplace when finished, and over this will be the sleeping loft. The Swiss chalet style roof, chosen for the practical reason that it will be most effective in shedding snow, gives the building additional picturesqueness. Since the main camp last Summer an outdoor cook shed has been added, and there is also a well-placed rustic out-door dinning-room, the camp is assuming the dimensions of an important establishment worthy of its membership of approximately 100. The season is later this year than last, and several members who were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. C. [Claude] L. Harrison over the week-end at their neighboring camp at Grass Lake, were surprised with a light snowfall yesterday morning, which blanketed the surrounding hills in white.

ALPINE CLUB VIRILE BODY

Twenty-Sixth Anniversary Banquet Here Addressed By A. O. Wheeler

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday March 31, 1932, p. 6.

The existence of a keen and virile Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada was amply testified at the annual banquet of the organization held last night at the Empress Hotel, when nearly forty members sat down at the daffodil and wild lily decked tables in the Duke of York private dining-room. With A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, veteran founder of the parent Alpine Club of Canada and president of the local section, in the chair; Gordon Cameron in the toastmaster's seat conducting the community sing-song; R. [Robert] D. McCaw at the piano; brief addresses by C. [Claude] L. Harrison, W. [William] H. Dougan, S. [Stanley] H. Mitchell (former secretary of the parent club), Miss Thelma Thomson (Ladies' Alpine Club of England) and James White, and solos or recitations by Mrs. R.D. McCaw, Harold J. Davis, Thomas Goodlake and Mrs. C.M.C. Fleming, the banquet was one of the most successful in the club's history.

President's Address

The sectional banquet always coincides with similar events by other sections throughout the continent celebrating the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Alpine Club of Canada. In his annual address, Mr. Wheeler recalled something of the early beginning of the club, which, despite many vicissitudes, was "going stronger than ever," as evidenced by its numerous mountaineering activities; by its excellent publication, the *Canadian Alpine Journal*; by well-attended annual camps in the Rockies; flourishing clubhouse at Banff, where members and Alpine guests from all over the world foregather in the Summer, and the strong and active sections dotted all over the continent. The local section was heartily congratulated on its strong membership and its enthusiastic spirit, one of the best evidences of which was the programme of outings for the current season and the progress being made with the new clubhouse at the Lake of the Seven Hills. Such a club should serve as a very fine training ground for attendance at the main camps in the Rockies, and in this connection Mr. Wheeler expressed the hope that some of the members would find their way this year to the camp to be held at Roger's Pass, in the Selkirks, or at Hector Lake, near Jasper.

A Message

In closing, the president repeated to the local section the message which, as founder, he had also sent to other sections throughout the continent, wishing them "A very happy Summer amidst the great hills," and concluding with a characteristic panegyric testifying to his own appreciation, after practically a lifetime in the great-out-of-doors, of the "high summits" and the "great alplands." This was received with long applause. Mr. Wheeler's address was made in proposing the toast to "The Alpine Club of Canada," to which Gordon Cameron responded by touching briefly on his own first associations with the main camp in 1914, paying a tribute to the veteran leader whose personality now practically stood as the symbol for the organization.

The Local Club

Something about the local sectional activities were touched upon by W.H. Dougan and C.L. Harrison, each of whom referred to the new club chalet at the Lake of the Seven Hills, Mr. Harrison, after giving a detailed description of the building, reminded members of the official opening on June 3, and expressed the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler would be able to attend. Mr. Mitchell, who for many years was at the annual camps in the Rockies in his capacity of secretary, was enthusiastically applauded, and told something about the popularity which these camps enjoy among visitors from all parts of the world. Just recently he had had inquiries by letter from Vienna, Australia and Japan concerning climbing in the Rockies with the Alpine Club.

Greetings

The sectional secretary, Guy Shaw, read some of the greetings from other Alpine Club sections, including Edmonton, Calgary, New York and Vancouver, who were observing the twenty-sixth anniversary at the same time. The Vancouver Island section had dispatched greetings to all sections mentioned in the Red Book. Miss Thomson, of the Ladies' Alpine Club, England, expressed her pleasure in being present. In addition to the numerous community songs, there were much-enjoyed solos by Mrs. McCaw and H.J. Davis, the former singing "Happy Time" and "Little Boy Blue," the latter "Duna," "Passing By" and "Drumadoon." The artists and Mrs. E.C. Posgate and Mrs. C.L. Harrison, who had charge of the decorations, were warmly thanked.

ALPINE CLUB SEE PREVOST

Interesting Expedition To Duncan District Made By Victoria Climbers

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday April 5, 1932, p.5.

The summit of Mount Prevost, Duncan, was the objective of the thirteen members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada who made the expedition last Sunday [April 3]. Under the leadership of Miss Janet Bell, the trip proved thoroughly delightful and interesting, and had the novelty of directing attention to a part of the Island which is seldom visited. With an altitude of 2,543 feet, the summit of Mount Prevost commands a wonderful prospect, north, south, east and west. Fortunately, the visibility was fairly good, so that the checkerboard-like effect of the well-cultivated Cowichan Valley agricultural country could be seen with Duncan, a compact little hamlet, nestling not far from the foot of the wooded slopes: Quamichan and Shawnigan Lakes fitting easily into the birds-eye landscape; and a broadening perspective embracing Crofton, Saltspring Island, details of the Saanich Inlet, and the surrounding Straits and Islands and mainland mountains.

Early Start

The party left Victoria by motor at 9 o'clock and reached the foot of Mount Prevost about 11:30 o'clock after a brief stop at Duncan. The ascent was made via the north side, and before the summit was reached at 2 o'clock, considerable patches of snow, six and eight inches deep, the aftermath of Winter, were passed, with yellow violets and wild collinsea blooming nearby. Despite the recent heavy rains, the mountain is singularly devoid of running water, and for the tea served with the alfresco luncheon near the summit, one of the climbers carried water from a pool formed by melting snow 200 feet below.

War Memorial

Owing to the chill wind only a brief stay was made at the summit, barely sufficient to note the details of the view and make comparisons with the map; and to inspect the war memorial erected by citizens of Duncan and formerly dedicated on Armistice Day two years ago. This memorial, which is forty feet high, is fitted with a beacon that burns perpetually and by night can be seen scores of miles away. Appreciation of the Duncan citizens' enterprise in erecting such a tower to the memory of men from the district who gave their lives in the war is enhanced by a visit to the summit and the realization of what it meant for the volunteer workmen who not only built the structure but carried all the materials by hand up the steep slopes of the mountain.

Perpetual Beacon

A marine lamp with which it is fitted was loaned by the Marine Department, and is similar to those used at sea. It is fed from an acetylene gas tank, which has to be replaced every three or four months. The replacement is also done by volunteers, the care of the beacon being under the administration of a board of trustees of which Captain Groves, of Duncan, is the chairman. The immediate surrounding area also is preserved against encroachment, the E. & N. Railway Company, which owns Mount Prevost, having presented the five or six acres of land round the tower. The present memorial replaces one of more temporary character erected immediately after the war by Duncan citizens. In the neighborhood is a smaller cairn erected many years ago by Indians of the district. Mount Prevost, reference to the Geological Survey Memoir of 1895 showed, was named by Captain Richards, of H.M.S. Plumper, after Captain (afterwards Admiral) Charles Prevost, of H.M.S. Satellite, on this station, 1857-60, and also on this station in 1850 on H.M.S. Portland, the flagship of Rear-Admiral Moresby, whose daughter he had married.

ALPINIST ENJOY TWO-DAY OUTING

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday April 27, 1932, p. 4.

A two-day expedition around the boundaries of the property in the Sooke Hills under the expert guidance of C. [Claude] L. Harrison, was the recent objective of members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada. Each member carried his sleeping equipment and food for the trip. Having walked halfway up the trail leading to the Lake of the Seven Hills, the party turned off and proceeded to measure the boundary and see if the old posts were still intact. However, as the last survey had been made in 1895, most of the posts were quite difficult to see, and the blazes on the trees were almost indecipherable. A camp was made that night on the bank of the East

Sooke River, which flows along at the feet of Mount Ragged and Shepherd. Here two other energetic members joined the main party, having come along the trail leading to Ragged Mountain. A substantial dinner, followed by a blazing camp fire, refreshed the weary travelers, who listened with great enjoyment to extremely interesting and amusing stories by Mr. Harrison. Sleeping bags were all occupied by midnight. The next day the homeward route was taken straight across country to the Lake of the Seven Hills, where a stop was made for lunch and also to inspect the Hut, which is on the verge of completion.

SNOW BAFFLED YOUNG CLIMBERS

Could Not Even Reach Cabin On Arrowsmith Trail

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday April 28, 1932, p. 1.

PORT ALBERNI, April 26—Deep, wet snow that clung to the shoes and obscured all landmarks made tough going for the party of nine that made this season's first attempt to scale Mount Arrowsmith, last Sunday. It was impossible to reach the cairn in the time at their disposal and no attempt was made to do so; as a matter of fact, the snow was so deep that all trail blazes were hidden and the hikers weren't able to locate the cabin. Included in the party that left Port Alberni at 5:30 a.m. and returned at 8:00 p.m. were Evelyn Hanes, Dorothy Proctor, Verna Proctor, Chrissie Ross, Frank Clegg, Bud Walker, Fred Patton, Spence Burpee and Jack Harris.

SEE FINE VIEW FROM MT. BRUCE

Alpine Club Makes Week-End Trip To Saltspring Island—Camp At Burgoyne Bay

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday May 4, 1932, p. 5.

A splendid panorama was obtained on Sunday [May 1] from the top of Mount Bruce, Saltspring Island, by members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada. Looking in an easterly direction, the Gulf Islands could be seen in perspective, with the snowy wall of the Coast Range far away in the background. In the opposite direction could be seen the snow-covered peak of Mount Arrowsmith, and many smaller ones such as Mount Coronation, Mount Prevost, Mount Brenton, Mount Sicker and Mount Wood. Shawnigan Lake and Saanich Inlet were also visible from the 2,300-foot summit, the highest point on Saltspring Island. The party, headed by C. [Claude] L. Harrison, crossed to Saltspring Island by ferry on Saturday afternoon. Camp was made under the maples at Burgoyne Bay, with the frowning southwest face of Mount Maxwell directly above. After a hearty meal and a pleasant evening by the camp fire, they retired for the night. At half-past seven next morning the party, under the able leadership of Miss Kathleen Martin, set out for Mount Bruce. A short walk along the beach brought them to its foot, and the summit was reached after three and a half hours' steady climbing up a thickly wooded slope, using the compass constantly. At 12 o'clock a stop was made for lunch, and the party returned to camp at 1:30 o'clock. At 2:30 o'clock they departed for Fulford Harbor, where they caught the afternoon ferry to Schwartz Bay, bringing to a close a most successful trip, made doubly enjoyable by the magnificent weather.

MOUNT JOCELYN IS EASY ASCENT

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday May 10, 1932, p. 3.

Favored by the fine weather of Sunday [May 8], the trip to Mount Jocelyn [Jocelyn Hill] by the Vancouver Island Branch of the Alpine Club of Canada fulfilled every expectation. The party proceeded by car and bicycle to a point on the west branch of Millstream Road. From there, capably led by Thomas Goodlake, a short trip through the woods by compass brought them to the foot of the mountain. The ascent was easy and delightful, because of the park-like slopes, the bright variety of wild flowers, and the constantly widening panorama of the surrounding country visible as the climb proceeded. From the summit, where the party rested and lunched, the view was superb. Below, to the west, lay Finlayson Arm, gleaming like polished steel in the sunlight and the Malahat, winding ribbon-like along the slope beyond. To the north lay Saanich Arm, with the hills of Saltspring in the distance, while to the east, as in a relief map, lay the Saanich Peninsula, James Island, Sidney Island, San Juan and other islands. About 4 o'clock, rather reluctantly, the return journey was begun. The route lay along the ridge of the mountain overlooking Finlayson Arm, and frequent pauses were made to admire the view. A short plunge into the woods and the members emerged on the road once more, and so to Victoria, ending a thoroughly enjoyable day.

ALPINE HUT TO FORMALLY OPEN

About Fifty Alpinists Attending Ceremony In Sooke District Today

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday June 3, 1932, p. 6.

About fifty members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada will attend the formal opening of the hut at the Lake of the Seven Hills, Sooke District, today. A group left the city yesterday afternoon, carrying sleeping bags and other camping outfit, and the remainder of the expedition will leave town early this morning in order to make camp by midday to take part in the celebration's attendant on the formal opening immediately after lunch. The vice-chairman, W. [William] H. Dougan; C. [Claude] L. Harrison, chairman of the hut and property committee; Gordon Cameron, treasurer; Guy M. Shaw, secretary, and R. [Robert] D. McCaw, chairman of the reception and entertainment committee, will participate in the programme, which will begin shortly after 1 o'clock, and there will also be community singing. Although there will be a camp fire and entertainment each evening during the three-day camp, tonight's will have a special flavor in honor of the opening ceremonies marking the completion of the hut, which hereafter will be the pivot round which all the social life of the camp will move. Its construction completes an establishment which has generous accommodation for any club activities in the district, the dinning pavilion and outdoor kitchen (with concrete and stone oven) having been erected about eighteen months ago.

ALPINE CLUB HUT IS OPEN

Large Number Of Members Present At Interesting Ceremony Yesterday

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday June 4, 1932, p. 6.

Cloudless skies and an enthusiastic representation of members attended at formal opening of the recently-completed Alpine Club hut at the Lake of the Seven Hills, Sooke, yesterday. The ceremony was carried out following brief speeches by the vice-chairman of the Vancouver Island section, W. [William] H. Dougan, who gave a short history of the actual building operations; and Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, chairman of the hut and property committee, who thanked various members for their help, financial and otherwise. Mrs. C.L. Harrison then, at the invitation of the vice-chairman, performed the ceremony of cutting the ribbons stretched across the veranda steps, and declared the picturesque building open. The ribbons were in the Alpine Club colors, green representing the forests, grey for the rocks, and white for snow. Moving pictures were taken while this ceremony was being carried out to the accompaniment of cheers and clapping by the spectators. Immediately thereafter members and guests entered the building for luncheon. The arrangements were remarkably attractive, the repast being prepared by Mrs. C.L. Harrison, Mrs. Laws, Mrs. Guy Shaw and Mr. Campbell. One of the major dishes was supplied by C. [Charles] E. Whitney-Griffiths*.

Hut And Property

A characteristic cheerfulness marked the occasion, speeches and community singing taking place during luncheon. Mr. Dougan called on Mr. Harrison to explain uses of the club, and Mr. Harrison expressed the hope that members would take advantage of their privileges and use the hut and property. The Hut, he noted, had accommodation for thirty-six persons, and the property, consisting of 180 acres embraces two and a quarter square miles. It was a source of great satisfaction to everyone to see the fulfilment of three years' preparation and work. Mrs. Healey-Kerr, who has returned after an extended absence in England, was welcomed by the gathering, and to her and Mr. Harrison gave the credit for originating the idea of the hut. Mr. Dougan was particularly thanked for his untiring efforts in bringing the hut to completion, and the secretary, Guy Shaw, was also thanked for his energetic help. Mr. Campbell was also thanked, especially for his deft axmanship in connection with the stairs which lead to the upper floor, these being cut by broad axe. The stone fireplace, it was noted, has still to be built. Other brief speeches were made by G. Cameron, Captain [William] Everall, Rev. F.C. Chapman, Mrs. Healey-Kerr and Miss Sara Spencer.

Inspect Hut

Inspection of the hut followed, and revealed the solid durable character of the structure. Of the Swiss chalet type, its walls are constructed of vertically-placed logs hewn from trees cut on the property. The main room on the ground floor measures 20 by 30 feet; behind this are the kitchen and storeroom, with floors of hewn logs. A brick range in the kitchen is of such ample proportions that cooking can be carried out on a big scale with great ease. A feature noticeable from the front of the building is the great entrance door, finished with wrought-iron hinges and hasps, the work of Mr. Shields, art metal worker, of Sooke. The wide veranda at the front, which commands a fine view of the lake enclosed by the club property, has a floor of hewn logs impervious to the heaviest of Alpine boots, and a comfortable

wide banister which serves as a seat. The windows are also unusually deep, the ledges forming the comfortable seats.

The Upstairs

The upstairs, well finished to resist the cold breezes of night, extends the full width of the building, and will make a useful dormitory for members remaining overnight when it is too cold to sleep out of doors. The formal opening over, the members dispersed in all directions, some to spend the afternoon climbing, others for fishing or canoeing. Mrs. Healey-Kerr and Miss Sara Spencer presided at the tea table at the afternoon gathering, when the chief delicacy was the "birthday cake," a ten-pound confection, which again exemplified the Alpine Club colors, while its decorations represented the path to the cairn on Mt. Survey. The days' proceedings came to a happy termination with the campfire rally, when a good impromptu programme took place.



Charles Eustatius Whitney-Griffiths

*[Charles Eustatius Whitney-Griffiths](#) (1886 – 1953) was born in Wales in 1886. In 1902, Charles and his brother William (Billy) emigrated to Canada. Charles went up to the Yukon to work for awhile but the two agreed to meet in Vancouver. When they had heard about good farmland for sale in Victoria they moved there and bought five acres in Metchosin and began farming. In 1907, they heard about several hundred acres for sale in the Witty's Lagoon area and bought 129 acres of uncleared land. In 1912, they finished building The Grange which became the grand family home. During WWI, Billy joined the army and served in France while Charles stayed at the farm, buying stock (especially sheep) and continuing to improve the land. The brothers lived their whole lives on the farm. Charles Whitney-Griffiths passed away on 28 December 1953 (obituary in The Daily Colonist Tuesday December 29, 1953, p. 12) leaving his wife Dorothy and brother. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, a Director of the Montreal Fire Insurance Co., a life member of the Vancouver Island Turkey Association and assisted in organizing the Farming Institute of B.C. Whitney-Griffiths Point at the west end of Witty Lagoon, Metchosin, is named after the two brothers and their family.

NEW HUT COMPLETES ALPINE CLUB HOME

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday June 5, 1932, p. 6.



WILL IMPROVE THE DOVE CREEK TRAIL

Forbidden Plateau Camp Will Open On July 1st

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday June 23, 1932, p. 5.

Phil Ryan and his gang have gone up the Dove Creek Trail to Camp 4 to clear out windfalls and improve the trail. It is hoped they will get permission to swamp out a new trail to cut out the ascent of the ridge beyond Camp 5. Harry McQuillan found a much easier grade last year which also has the merit of passing by a lookout giving a fine view of a 300-foot waterfall and a panorama of the lowlands to the north. If this were done it would make a very welcome break in what is rather a dull trail. Mr. [Eugene] Croteau is going in this week-end. He's taking with him Ranson Cooke as guide and Barney Sullivan and J. Brand as cookies, while Mr. Croteau will have the help of Miss Dorothy Christian of Duncan in the kitchen. The camp will be open on the first of July. He's going to have some special locked bags for mail this year and new tents and flies. [Jack] Murray and [Stuart] Wood will be packing at the regular rates at the end of the road and they are going to build a shed for accommodation of horses and feed at the end of the road. The Vancouver Province and other dailies have been giving the Plateau much space this year, and there's likely to be many parties go up.

ALPINE CAMP ON PLATEAU

Victorians Will Establish Camp Here This Year

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday June 30, 1932, p. 2.

Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison is bringing the Vancouver Islands section of the Alpine Club of Canada to the Forbidden Plateau this year. The Vancouver Islands section of the Alpine Club of Canada will hold their Summer camp this year on Forbidden Plateau. The camp will be located on the shores of beautiful Circle [Circlet] Lake at the foot of Mt. Albert Edward. Mr. C.L. Harrison will be in charge and the ten days in camp will be spent exploring the hitherto unexplored ar-

eas of the Plateau. Circle Lake lies at an altitude of over 4,000 feet above sea-level and is fed the year round by streams from the melting snows and ice of the permanent hanging glaciers of Mt. Albert Edward. Within a short distance of the camp are other lakes which will provide warm water for bathing. Kamloops trout were planted in Circle Lake in 1930 and it was at this lake that fresh water shrimp were first discovered. They were later found to abound in all of the Plateau lakes. Fishing will however not be permitted in Circle Lake until 1933. All the supplies for the camp will be purchased at Courtenay stores and Mr. Jack Mitchell has been engaged as cook for the camp. Jack Murray and Stuart Wood have been engaged to pack supplies in to the camp and are supplying saddle horses for those who may wish to ride. Major F. [Frederick] V. Longstaff, F.R.G.S., will spend the latter part of July this year gathering information and data for mapping the area for the Royal Geographical Society. Major Longstaff has for many years considered the Forbidden Plateau to be an ideal site for a Swiss chalet. He has had a world-wide experience in Alpine work and exploration and is an authority of note on the subject. He has been an active member of the Alpine Club of Canada since its inception in 1912. Major Longstaff has recently completed a survey of the bridge River district for the Royal Geographical Society.

More Trout To Be Planted

On the afternoon of June 29th, a half million Kamloops trout eggs arrived in Courtenay on their way to their destination, the Forbidden Plateau. They will be transported by truck for the first ten miles, where pack-horses will be waiting to take them in to the lakes on the Forbidden Plateau. Prior to 1929 all the lakes on the Plateau were absolutely barren of fish; now eighteen lakes have been stocked and it is expected that the remaining lakes will be planted this year. Large numbers of trout three and four pounds in weight were seen in the lakes last summer giving evidence of the local conditions prevailing there.

ALPINE CLUB TO CAMP AT SOOKE

Party Of Twenty-Two To Go Under Canvas At Lake Of The Seven Hills

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday July 1, 1932, p. 7.

A party of twenty-two members from the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada went under canvas at the annual Summer camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills, Sooke, today. Three members left yesterday to see that the place is in readiness for the six days' occupation, and to complete the preparations for the subcamp at Mount Empress, where a party of climbers will bivouac on Saturday night. The remainder of the twenty-two members will go out tomorrow morning, the entire personnel of the party being as follows: Colonel [Fred C.] and Mrs. [Marcella-nee Nairn] Bell (Vancouver), Miss Janet Bell, Miss Doris Bertram, Kenneth M. Chadwick, William H. Dougan, Capt. William Everall, Miss Eleanor Everall, Thomas Goodlake, Mr. and Mrs. Claude L. Harrison, Miss Hinder, Miss M. Hodge, Mrs. F. [Sylvia] Holland, H.B. Jones, Mrs. John Nairn, J. Osborn, Sir Charles Delme-Radcliffe, C.H. Rutherford, Mr. and Mrs. Guy M. Shaw, Basil and Dick Shaw, and Miss [Edith] Willcox. Immediately after this camp another party of fourteen members will leave for the annual camp at the Forbidden Plateau, which opens on July 9.



TO EXPLORE NEW REGIONS OF ISLAND

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday July 13, 1932, p. 11.



A PARTY of ten members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada left the city early last Saturday morning for Courtenay and the Forbidden Plateau for a ten days' camp. Entering the park via the new trail at Dove Creek, the expedition pitched camp at Circle Lake, which will be the base of operations. In charge of C. L. Harrison and Guy Shaw, numerous climbs are projected, the programme including a number of hitherto unscaled peaks, the ascent of which will be the more difficult because of the lateness of the season and the lingering snows in the district. The party includes: Miss Marjorie Hadley, Miss Erminie Bass, Miss Edith Wilcox, Miss Janet Bell, Miss Kathleen Martin, C. L. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Shaw, W. H. Warren, and Tom Goodlake. Pack ponies accompanied the expedition up to Circle Lake, where two feet of snow were found on the opening day of the camp.

LEAVE FOR ALPINE CAMP

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday July 14, 1932, p. 8.

Mr. and Mrs. E.C. Posgate have left by motor for the Canadian Alpine Camp at Glacier National Park [Mount Sir Donald] where they will holiday for some time.

PLATEAU STILL AWAITS SUMMER

Local Alpine Club Group Is Delayed By Weather At Annual camp

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday July 19, 1932, p. 5.

The heavy rains of last week considerably interfered with the programme of the party of Vancouver Island Alpine Club members, who are camping at the Forbidden Plateau. The intention was to climb a number of virgin peaks and explore new terrain, but continued wet weather and heavy going early in the week altered the plans. One of the happy

incidents of the expedition has been the meeting with Eugene Croteau, who accompanied the first organized expedition into the Forbidden Plateau in 1928. On that occasion the Alpine Club joined with the Courtenay and Comox Mountaineering Club in a very successful camp, and a rehearsal of some of the happenings of that memorable camp filled a very happy hour with Mr. Croteau, who recalled the members individually. This year's expedition, although much smaller than that of 1928 and much less fortunate in respect of weather, has been fortunate in having an expert camp cook. Jack Mitchell, who is noted as trapper and woodsman also. He had everything in readiness for the party, with main tents already up, also dinning table and stone fire-place, so that despite the rain which persisted intermittently for the last three days, everyone was comfortable, dry, warm and well-fed. Summer on the plateau, as elsewhere on Vancouver Island, is much later than usual, and C. [Claude] L. Harrison, who is in charge of the expedition, reports that snow is still falling on the mountains, and heavy banks of snow lie in all directions in the immediate neighborhood of the camp at Circle [Circlet] Lake. Mount Albert Edward was the objective on Thursday.

AT FORBIDDEN PLATEAU

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday July 20, 1932, p. 8.

The Forbidden Plateau is proving a most popular resort this Summer and several large parties are at present in camp. Among those who recently registered are Mr. Claude. L. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Guy M. Shaw, Miss K. [Kathleen] Martin*, Miss M. [Marjorie] Hadley, Miss E. [Erminie] Bass, Miss Janet Bell, Mr. Thomas Goodlake, Mr. W.H. Warren and Miss Edith Willcox (Boston), representing the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, and also Mr. and Mrs. George Jack, Bernard Jack, Mr. Edward O'Sullivan, Miss Dorothy Turnbull, Miss Margaret Park, all of Vancouver; Messrs. Alec Stewart, D.C. Thomas, N.B. Brown, T. Tame, J.E. [Ethel] M. Bruce, W. Revie, J.W. Green, W.G. Scott, A. Trotter, T. Prestell, G.W. Hodgson, Miss Ruth Thomas, Mr. R. Cook, all from Courtenay; Mr. Hugh Baker, Duncan; Mr. Carl Erickson, Mr. H. [Harry] H. Beadnell, Comox; Messrs. Henry, Norman, Joseph and Isaac Parkin, Headquarters, B.C.; Mr. H. Edwards, Saanichton; Mr. C. Castley, Lake Cowichan; Miss Dorothy Christian, Hillbank, B.C.; Miss Betsy Turnbull, Grantham's Landing, B.C.; Messrs. Harry Leonard and Richard [Dick] Idiens, Royston, B.C.; Miss Dorothea Hay, Miss Thelma Schroeder, Mrs. Ethel Lohbrunner, Mr. *Edmund Lohbrunner** and Mr. Chester Price, all of Victoria.

*Kathleen Martin-Tuckey (1909 - 2008) was born in England in 1909 and immigrated to Canada in 1912. She lived a charmed life, starting with missing the Titanic's crossing after coming down with a case of the chicken-pox. She attended Victoria High School and then did a year at Victoria College as she was too young to go to Secretarial School. Kathleen worked in several office jobs and was a liberated woman before her time. One of her jobs was working at a bank in Vancouver with several men. Mum had the only car and would drive them 'to and fro' to the golf course - we don't know if she had a driver's licence! She married Francis Tuckey in 1937 and they operated a fruit farm in Saanich until his death in 1959. She returned to office work and was employed by both Saanich Municipality and the Provincial Government until her retirement. Mum had a multitude of interests, all kinds of hobbies and was a great collector. She was a member of the Alpine Club for many years (where she met Dad) and she maintained her interest in miniatures and movie-making throughout her life. She loved to learn, and her son Dick was proud to talk about how she learned to use a computer at age 90. She was a long-time member of St. Michael and All Angels Church (Royal Oak). Mum's greatest joy was her family and friends and she treasured every one. She is lovingly remembered by her children, Brenda & Reg Waggoner, Jean & Ken Manness, Dick & Sally Tuckey and Sue Jergens & Bob Greig; seven grandchildren and their families, many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Her brother Vince Martin and his wife Margaret and their children were a special part of her life, as was her sister, Viv, (who predeceased her) and her family. She was so proud of all of us. Mum suffered from anemia in her last few years, but with the help of regular transfusions she was able to keep an active life. After a long and happy life, she passed away at home in her sleep on 28 January 2008.

*Edmund Herman Lohbrunner (1904 - 1981) was born on 7 August 1904 in Victoria B.C. to parents who moved from Bavaria when the Prussians took over the state. He attended Victoria West and Victoria High School and later took various jobs on the west coast but eventually was hired as a radioman for Hales KPO radio station. In 1927, he was hired by Audrey Kent as a foreman in a radio service department. In 1929, he married Ethel Reid and they began growing Lily bulbs in their garden to supplement their income during the depression years. His interest in botany bloomed and he began collecting and growing wildflowers. In the early 1930's he went up to the Forbidden Plateau. In an interview recorded just prior to his death he said: "At the time at Forbidden Plateau, Croteau had a camp up there and they used to take people up there with a pack horse. They also had a fishing camp there and my chum and I were going up there. Ethel wanted to come along. At the time Croteau just had a couple tents and we had to hike up from the old Dove Creek trail. Someone told us there were alpine plants up there. We did not know what these plants were, but we knew

Mr. J.C. Bennett had a nursery on Mackenzie Avenue, so we went and asked him if there was anything we could bring him back and he told us to bring back white penstamen menziesii. We did not know what this was so he showed us a picture in a book. This plant is very rare. Ethel came along on the jaunt with us and when we were about half way along the trail, just at dusk, we heard tinkles and told her there was a pack train coming. She said she did not know there was a train that went up there. We borrowed some of their animals for our gear and we got up the next day to the plateau proper and met Croteau. The next day Ethel and I climbed Mount Albert Edward which is the highest peak in the plateau and it was absolutely wonderful. Snow was across the whole meadow and we saw yellow Easter lilies and other flowers and we brought these back to Mr. Bennett and he named them for us and of course, we gave him bits of everything.” Edmund Lohbrunner became an authority on alpine and rock garden plants and in 1973 he was the first Canadian to win the American Rock Garden Society’s Marcel le Pin-iec award. In 1977, he received the Florens De Bevoise Medal from the Garden Club of America for his unique horticultural achievement in collecting, propagating and distributing countless plants, many of which are not commonly known in the Northwest. He was the first Honorary Life Member of the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Society and received an Honorary Doctor of Law from UVIC. At UBC there is the E.H. Lohbrunner Alpine Garden in his honor. Lohbrunner passed away on 10 October 1981 in Victoria.



Edmund Herman Lohbrunner

WITH ALPINE CLUB

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday July 30, 1932, p. 8.

Among those who attended the camp of the Alpine Club of Canada at the Mount Sir Donald Camp in the Selkirk Range are A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, of Sidney, B.C., president of the club; Brigadier-General Sir Charles Delme-Radcliffe, K.C.M.G., of London, England, temporarily resident in Victoria, and Mr. and Mrs. E.C. Posgate, also of Victoria. Sir Charles, as an authority on aerial topographical work, entertained the camp one evening with talk on the subject.

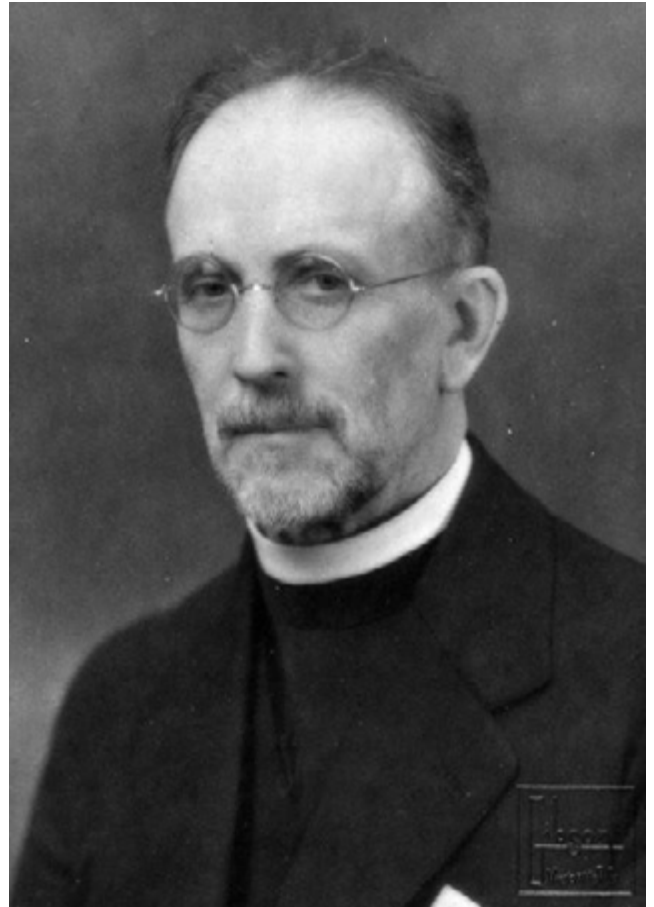
MANY GOING TO PLATEAU

Despite Uncertain Weather Dove Creek Trail Is Busy Spot

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 4, 1932, p. 1.

All the world and his wife are going up to the Forbidden Plateau this month. The end of the trail, where Messrs. [Stuart] Wood and [Jack] Murray saddle up, is a very busy spot and so is Croteau’s Camp. The trail is muddy and wearisome but is rapidly drying out. A veritable cavalcade left on Tuesday morning for the Forbidden Plateau: and there will be another big contingent go up on Friday when the Hon. R.H. Pooley, Mrs. Pooley and daughter [Phyliss] intend to camp at Panther Lake for the fishing. Major Longstaff, who is writing a history of Vancouver Island, has been on the Plateau for two weeks. He came down this week. On Tuesday Mr. C. [Clinton] S. Wood on the instruction of the Courtenay City Council, left with Mr. H. Hunt, Assistant Fisheries Engineer for the Dominion Government in the province. Mr. Hunt wants to see the waterworks dam and if it is preventing the spawning of trout that are now in the lakes. Mr. Wood will show that it is such a simple obstruction that with a very little work done can be lowered so as to allow the fish to go up. With Mr. Hunt is his wife. Mrs. Scott, his mother-in-law, an old lady of 81, accompanied them to Courtenay and is taking great interest in the district. She will remain down here until the party returns. Mr. and Mrs. Heber Cooke went up on Tuesday. Mr. W. A. [Adrian] B. Paul, Miss [H] Paul and Arthur Paul went up on Tuesday. Mr. Robert Baird, Inspector of Municipalities brought his wife and Miss Helen Baird to Courtenay and they have gone up to the Plateau. The Rev. *Robert Connell**, the naturalist and Mr. E. [Edward] Grieg have been on the Plateau. Mr. Connell has been making a study of the flora there.

*[Robert Connell](#) (1871 – 1957) was born to Scottish parents in Liverpool, England on 4 June 1871 and raised around Glasgow. He worked as a shipping agent before moving to Canada at the age of 17 where he became identified with mission work in the Northwest Territories. In 1896, while living in Calgary he was ordained as a priest and in 1901 he moved to Victoria where he served as rector of St. Luke's until 1908 when he left for California for three years. He returned to Victoria in 1911 and was appointed rector of St. Saviour's until 1923. Connell taught art and botany classes at Victoria High and St. Michael's University School and was a member of the Victoria Natural History and Island Arts and Crafts Society. He was an accomplished artist and a life-long student and devotee of the natural world and wrote weekly articles for the Victoria newspapers. He was a member of the ACCVI and led trips to the local mountains around Sooke and Saanich often talking about the geology and botany of the area. In 1932, Connell joined the League for Social Reconstruction and became the leader of the BC Reconstruction Party. This was a short-lived party that joined the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation party (now NDP.) Connell agreed to run for the provincial legislature as a CCF candidate in the 1933 provincial election. The new party won seven seats, including Connell's Victoria City riding. With the collapse of the governing Conservative Party, which was in such disarray it decided not to run any candidates, and the election of a Liberal government the CCF found itself as the official opposition in the B.C. legislature. The party caucus met and named Connell as Leader of the Opposition until the end of his political career in 1939. He then returned to ecclesiastical work, becoming the Archdeacon of Comox in 1940. He married Jane Hodson in May 1898 and they had three children. Robert Connell passed away on 13 November 1957 (obituary in *The Daily Colonist* November 14, 1957, p. 2.)



Robert Connell

ALPINE CLUB IN PLATEAU

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 4, 1932, p. 2.

(The following article on the Alpine Club camp on the Plateau has been written for us by its leader, Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison. It was most unfortunate that they should have such abominable weather for practically their whole stay.) The trip into the Forbidden Plateau by the Alpine Club, Vancouver Island section, was held a little earlier than the memorable trip of 1928. This was done to enable the members to attend the Main Club, which was to hold its camp at Rogers Pass on the Mainland. The party consisted of Mr. G. [Guy] M. Shaw and Mrs. Shaw, Mr. Warren, Miss [Marjorie] Hadley, Miss [Janet] Bell, Miss [Kathleen] Martin, Miss [Erminie] Bass, Mr. T. [Thomas] Goodlake, and Miss [Edith] Willcox from Boston. The party left Victoria on 9th of July and passed on to the Dove Creek Trail at 3 o'clock. They camped the first night on the way in at what is known as Camp 5, a shelter erected by Mr. Jack Mitchell, who was in charge of cooking arrangements for the party.

Fog And Rain

The following day rain commenced to fall and continued until we arrived at the camp, which was situated about 100 yards to the south-east of Circle [Circlet] Lake. The camp has already been set up by Jack Mitchell, and in spite of the heavy rainfall the camp suffered little inconvenience. For six days and nights rain and sleet fell unceasingly, except for two hours in one afternoon. The Plateau had much snow, but the snow was hard and of good quality and it made travel very easy. The rain and sleet was not the serious drawback that the fog was. The fog lifted but seldom until the sixth day. However, in spite of the rain, parties left the camp also daily for different points of interest, and left the

high mountain work until the sky had cleared. In the meantime, much work was done in the shape of gathering flora. Mr. Warren (who is superintendent of city parks) made a very large collection. The main Plateau itself was gone over for the purpose of revising the map made in 1928, and when the sky had cleared on the sixth day, this work was completed in the higher regions. During the last three days at camp, parties under Mr. G.M. Shaw and myself went into new territory. The new territory was north-westerly from Circle [Circlet] Lake and south-westerly from the mountain range behind Mount Albert Edward. The usual main objectives of the range behind the Plateau were covered, including Mount Albert Edward, Mount Arthur [Jutland] the range back of the Castle [Castlecrag], and other mountains within the Plateau. Much data was collected from the tops of the different mountains ascended. Difficulty was experienced on two days owing to fog, in particular an expedition lying to the south-west of Mount Albert Edward under Mr. G.M. Shaw, who spent many hours in the fog, returning when evening fell. The fog was so heavy that had it not been for good judgement, the party would not have been able to return to camp at nightfall.

Expanse Of Red Snow

On the back of Mount Arthur, the red snow made a rather remarkable spectacle when the party went down a glacier of 600 feet. The snow on top was white but the track cut down the glacier happened to reach a strata of red snow. The tracks in the snow therefore appeared as long streaks of red, while surrounding snow, of course, was white. This was somewhat remarkable because the red snow is generally in patches. The sunshine of the last three days brought out the bloom of many flowers, the late spring having held the bloom back later than most years. The effect was most unique - miles of heather commencing bloom all at once, as well as the phlox and other flowers at the higher elevations.

Fishing Should be Protected

The fishing on the Plateau is apparently very good. It is quite apparent that the fish have increased in size to an unusual extent, and it was also noted that the eggs planted in 1929 have not only developed into large trout, but the trout have apparently laid their own eggs in the Plateau and a second generation of trout are in evidence every where. They can be seen in the evening jumping in Panther Lake, Lake Beautiful and the small lakes connected with water. If the fishing is carefully looked after, it should afford the best fishing perhaps in British Columbia. The party left on the morning of the 19th, after having a most enjoyable trip in spite of the bad weather, and in spite of the difficulty with fog, and on two occasions, snow storms in the mountain ranges. The return trip was made over the Strathcona Trail to Mount Becher hut, arriving in Courtenay in the late afternoon and leaving for Victoria the same day. The comment I have to make on the Plateau is this:- The Plateau should be under control, particularly the fishing, particularly by someone upon the ground. The Mount Becher hut should be repaired, the ground in the vicinity cleaned up, and the defacing of the logs removed. The Strathcona Trail for the last few miles should be cleared and made available to the public.



FORBIDDEN PLATEAU

Two Hundred Have Already Visited Croteau Camp

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 11, 1932, p. 7.

In spite of the weeping skies of July 1932, more people came to the Plateau in that month than last year and Mr. Eugene Croteau has slept and dined 200 people already. The owner of the only camp on the Plateau has moved his camp this year from the side of the lake to its end. He has built his new log dining room with a view of the great snow-clad range to the west from the Castle [Castlecrag] to the blunt nose of Mount Albert Edward, 7,000 feet in the air. The guests have complete privacy in their widely scattered tents, they need only meet at the dining table if they so wish. This fall Mr. Croteau plans further expansion. He is going to build a bungalow and lounge which will boast a fire-place and concrete foundations. Guests so far have come from: Grantham; Vancouver; Courtenay; Victoria; Ladysmith; Chemainus; Cobble Hill; Comox; Cumberland; Esquimalt and Berkeley, California.

BACK FROM PLATEAU

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday August 14, 1932, p. 8.

Mrs. Robert Baird and her daughter, Helen, have returned from a week's hiking and climbing in the Forbidden Plateau country, with Croteau's camp at headquarters. In company with Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, of Vancouver, Miss Helen Baird made the ascent of Mount Albert Edward during the holiday.

Septuagenarian Alpinist

One of the hardest women climbers in the Forbidden Plateau area this Summer is Mme. [Olga] Stavrov, Russian resident of this city [Victoria] for several years past, who is spending some weeks in this popular Island alpine resort this Summer. Despite the fact that she is well past her seventieth year, Mme. Stavrov, who has climbed mountains in half a dozen countries of the world, made the long trip on foot alone into Croteau's camp, and has been actively climbing and exploring in the district ever since.

JACK MITCHELL AND HIS PANCAKES

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 18, 1932, p. 2.

By Bruce Hutchinson

Perhaps it is because I am inherently depraved, perhaps it is because I have been coarsened by long contact with the reading public, perhaps it is because I don't mind telling the truth but, anyway, my memories of places are mostly gastronomical. I could identify almost any place in British Columbia by its food; Kamloops by Wing's lamb chops; Kelowna by its fried chicken of a low dump not far from the lake; Barkerville by its mutton stew; Paul Lake by Mrs. Scott's gooseberry pie; the Allison Pass by its fried trout, each precisely nine inches long; Hazelton by Mrs. Newick's six desserts at each meal; Qualicum by chump chops cooked on a stick over a beach fire, and so on. The list is almost endless, I could go on making your mouth water for several columns, but I doubt the results would be worth my efforts. All I want to convey at the moment is that I have just discovered a new specimen to add to my collection; a magnificent specimen this, all the more valuable since I happened on it unexpectedly, and wouldn't believe it at first because of an old and deep-rooted prejudice. I mean I have discovered pancakes. Do not mistake me and turn away in disgust to read the more elevating comics and Dorothy Dix. These, my friend, are no ordinary pancakes, and they are worth a little of your time. As for me they will forever be connected in my mind with the Forbidden Plateau. I shall never see pancakes again, but I shall think of that magic land of lakes and heather up above Courtenay and, out of respect to the pancakes of the Forbidden Plateau, I shall never eat again the inferior ones which are bred in the heavy, deadening air of sea level. I feel pretty sure that such pancakes could not be made at sea level. I know positively that they could not be made by anyone except Mr. Mitchell of Courtenay, without whom, to cook and guide and tell stories around the camp fire, no one should think of venturing to the Forbidden Plateau. I met Jack Mitchell and his pancakes simultaneously the other night. We had come seventeen miles on a mountain trail, climbing 4,000 feet is a big day for people like me. We were coming across an alpine meadow just at dusk. Mount Albert Edward over our right shoulder, a white crescent moon over our left. Two deer, grazing in the long, lush grass twenty yards away, watched us contemptuously for awhile, and then walked slowly onto the bush. It was just then that I saw the gleam of a camp fire through the trees and an aroma

seemed to float from it, a sweet, unearthly smell like those airs of Paradise, which you may smell some day if you are not earthly and depraved like me. We urged the pack horses on towards the gleam and the smell. We hadn't eaten for a long, long time. When we got closer, I could see a man crouching by the fire with a great iron griddle in his hand and by him a tin filled with some white stuff. This was Jack Mitchell, and he was preparing his magic. He heard the tinkle of our bell mare coming down the long hill from Croteau's camp, and he was making pancakes for us. I sat down feeling very disappointed, very tired and very empty. I felt that the sweet smell I had smelled across the meadows was a false and treacherous smell, for if there is anything I despise (and there are quite a lot) it is pancake. A pancake to me is a flat spiritless fellow, pale of face, stolid of disposition and with a heaviness about him which remains with me long after he has been eaten. To come seventeen miles by mountain trail, hanging on to the tail of a horse for support, to come up to the Forbidden Plateau and then to be greeted by a pasty-faced pancake, this seemed more than I could bear on a tired spirit and empty stomach. Still, life must be sustained even on the Forbidden Plateau. By the light of the camp fire, in the chill thin mountain air, I ate one of Jack Mitchell's pancakes, gingerly as a man might tackle a strange Chinese dish. Then a strange thing happened. I can only say I ate twelve of Jack Mitchell's pancakes and would have eaten twelve more if it hadn't been for his beefsteaks, his fried trout and his bacon. And the next morning I did the same thing again. I fully expected to die, to perish on the rim of the Plateau, but I thought the pancakes were worth it. But instead, I lived with a new fervor, a new gusto which carried me for miles over the Forbidden Plateau and will survive long enough, I hope, to carry me back there again some day. I like to watch an artist at work. I mean a real artist, a painter, a carver or a teller of tales. Jack Mitchell is such an artist, but his pictures are painted in a frying pan, his poems are writ in flour. See how he mixes the batter, how he warms the pan to a sizzling heat, how he drops the batter with a deft twist of the spoon, how he turns the pancakes over with a single flip just at the right moment. Then taste the rich brown flavor of them, the airy lightness of them, the crispness of their outsides, the mealy goodness of their innards. Taste them but do not expect to find them anywhere else. They can be made, alas, only with the thin air of the Forbidden Plateau to raise them, with the crystal snow water of the little alpine lakes to moisten them, with the deft hand of Jack Mitchell to turn them, with long experience and ripe wisdom of Jack Mitchell to season them. This, you see is no ordinary chef, no mere cooker of food or maker of camps. Jack is an artist and yet something more than an artist; a poet rather, I would say. Into his cooking goes more than mere skill. Something of the out-of-doors, something of what he has found out by forty years in the bush goes into it, the spirit of the Forbidden Plateau goes into it. You realize, as you sit about the camp fire, that when a seventy-foot log dropped on Jack Mitchell a few years ago the world almost lost a good fellow, but what would have been infinitely worse, because such creatures are so scarce, it would have lost a superb cook. There are plenty of good fellows but not many men who can make pancakes. I mean pancakes what are pancakes. Since the big log fell on Jack and dealt him injuries sufficient to kill ten men, he can work in logging camps no more, and he cooks instead for people who go up to the Forbidden Plateau. You shouldn't go there without him or you will miss half the fun. You will miss the pancakes and you will also miss strange tales around the camp fire at night; of Jack Mitchell's pet bull elk which lives in a certain meadow not far off and is almost as tame as a dog; of the day Jack shot five cougar within half an hour; old trapping days when Jack Mitchell and his partner had an Imperial quart of pre-war rum hidden under the floor of each of the nine cabins, just in case of emergencies, which seemed to happen every night; of the three-legged deer which use to roam about these hills as spry as any of its four-legged brothers; of the little caches of tea and sugar and jam which Jack has strewn about the entire countryside in hollow trees so that he can always get a meal when he wants it. Yes, assuredly you should let Jack Mitchell of Courtenay guide you about the country and then you will miss none of the scenery.

MOUNTAINEERING

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 18, 1932, p. 2.

Dick Idiens introduced a section of the Beaufort Range to some hiking friends of his on Sunday [August 14]. He has found a way from the east coast of the island to the west across the Beaufort Range. It is by no means an easy way, but that doesn't bother Dick. As the Psalmist might say, he boundeth over the hill-tops like a deer, like a mountain goat he skippeth over the high places. It is possible to get two thousand feet of elevation by the old planked logging road over which Grant Brothers hauled logs for so many years. This alone is worth the trip as an expedition of "hell-winder" logging with a truck on a 22% grade. From the spar tree at Grants, Dick has blazed a trail to the top of the Beaufort Range, or Mount Joan, according to the Geodetic survey mark. It avoids a bypass but beyond that makes very little concession to old Man Gravity. From the ridge to the east, there is a superb view of the coastline from Qualicum Beach to Oyster River, and from Mount Joan there is a very fine air picture of the Comox Alberni Pass, Great

Central Lake and the Alberni Canal. The giants of Strathcona Park are also seen from a new angle. Dick has made this part of the Beaufort his happy hunting ground and it presents some fine views of the interior of the island, and there is plenty of climbing for those who are young and supple and strong in wind and limb. Dick has evolved his own style of pack. Out of the billycan he carried on his back, he can produce savory dishes much as a conjurer finds eggs in his top hat, and rabbits up his sleeve.

Another young climber, who is blazing new trails is young Gray Hill. He has just come back from a jaunt out of Buttles Lake to the Plateau via Alexandra Peak. He walked four miles up Buttles Lake and then set his course for Alexandra Peak, climbing it on his way to the Forbidden Plateau. He took eight days on the trip and made it alone. It's very tough country and a tough trip, he says.

FORBIDDEN PLATEAU

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 25, 1932, p. 7.

The unsettled weather has thinned the ranks of the hikers going up the Dove Creek Trail to the Forbidden Plateau; but now that the glass has gone up they will be setting their faces that way again. Arrivals at the camp have come from: Victoria; Comox; Courtenay; Grantham; Duncan; Vancouver; Britannia Beach; Bevan; Sandwick; Toronto; Qualicum Beach; Trail; Royston and Brentwood Bay.

ALPINE CLUB OUTING

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday September 1, 1932, p. 6.

Owing to the doubtful weather conditions the scheduled Alpine Club Labor Day week-end expedition to Sproat Lake has been cancelled, and instead a small camp will be organized for the Lake of the Seven Hills for Saturday, Sunday and Monday, for which a number of members have registered their names.

PLATEAU VISITORS

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday September 8, 1932, p. 2.

There are still quite a number of visitors at Croteau's Camp on the Forbidden Plateau in spite of the unsettled weather. The Rev. G.L. Bourdillon came down on Tuesday [September 6] after a hurried visit. He had the satisfaction of catching a two-pound trout in Panther Lake. Arrivals have come from: Comox; Victoria; Sandwick; Vancouver; Nanaimo and East Wellington.

EUROPEAN GUEST AT ALPINE CAMP

Lake-Of-The-Seven-Hills Camp Visited By Walter Buxbaum, Vienna Pianist On Sunday

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday September 21, 1932, p. 5.

Among those who visited the September camp of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada at the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills during the week-end was Walter Buxbaum, the well-known young pianist of Vienna, Austria, who is staying in the city at the present time. Accompanied by George A. Bucklin, United States Consul, and Mrs. Bucklin, Mr. Buxbaum made the hike up to the hut on Sunday, and joined the ten or twelve members who went in the previous day. An enthusiastic climber when he is in Austria and Switzerland, he expressed great delight in the splendid stimulus to outdoor activities which the Alpine Club gives here and, in the Rockies, and said he hoped to be able to visit the camp again before he left Victoria. The camp was a comparatively quiet one on this occasion, the members co-operating under Guy Shaw's direction, in the completion of the fire guard which has been cleared on the west side of the hut as a protection against possible mishap from forest fire. The guard is sixty feet wide and 400 feet long, and represents considerable labor on the part of the voluntary work parties during several week-ends. September has seen a resumption of outings, Mount Newton being climbed the previous week by sixteen members who afterwards met at Island Beach for a clam-bake, K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick being in charge of the details of this successful outing. Neville Hayne will have charge of the half-day expedition to Mount Helmcken next Saturday. Two more camps are scheduled to take place at the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills, the first to be at Thanksgiving, October 10 and the final one from Novem-

ber 11 to 13, inclusive, this ending the activities for 1932.

MARATHON HIKE

Courtenay Hikers Take 24-Hour Jaunt

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday, September 29, 1932, p. 1.

To promote circulation and by way of a little exercise, Sid Williams, Jack Bowbrick and Roy Harrison undertook a marathon twenty-four-hour hike round the hills and home again. They left the end of Dove Creek Road at midnight on Saturday, and arrived at Croteau's camp at 6:15, where they were warmly received by Mr. Croteau and Len Rossiter and given a bumper breakfast. They reached the top of Mount Albert Edward at noon and followed the range south to the Castle [Castlecrag Mountain] which they reached at three o'clock. They came down to Moat Lake and went through to the junction of the Dove Creek and Mount Becher trails together. Sid then struck off for Mount Becher, while the other two came home by Dove Creek. Sid arrived back at Bevan at half past eleven having been on the trail for twenty-four hours. He confessed that his feet were a little sore next morning.

FORBIDDEN PLATEAU IN RHYME

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday September 29, 1932, p. 2.

(The Nanaimo Herald recently published a story in verse of the progress of three valiant men of the County Seat who climbed Mount Albert Edward. The party were J.A. Swanson, East Wellington, J.C. Dakin and P.R. Inkster. Which of the three wrote the verse is not disclosed.)

James August Swanson, may his tribe increase,
Vowed that some day, prior to his demise,
Mount Albert Edward he would ascend,
And so, conforming to his noble end,
Three trusty friends, he kindly did invite
To share his joys, and with extreme delight
We plan our journey to the Mount of Gold.
Succeeding hikes had made Jim Swanson bold,
And with kerchief red tied round his neck,
Waves high his staff, says to his boys "by heck"
The one who falters, either night or morn,
Twere better far, that he had ne'er been born.
And as his piercing glance surveyed each fan,
Each vowed a vow to follow meekly on.

By Courtenay's plains we hit the muddy trail,
Which muddier grew, in spite of joke and tale.
Whiles, stumbling o'er some root, that treacherous lies,
Beneath a foot of slush, unseen by eyes,
That scan for foothold, that might safely keep
An erring footstep, less than ankle deep.
Whiles, groaning 'neath unearthly heavy packs
Of food and clothes, of tins and such knickknacks,
Clearly not meant to fit on human backs.

King Charles leads, and James takes up the rear,
While Art and Pete, partly with hope and fear,
Plod on, and on, o'er root and stump and log.
Charlie's bald spot, like a lighthouse in the fog
Shines clear ahead, an ever-moving goal,
Like land of refuge for a weary soul,
Faster one goes, faster the spot moves on,

O'er hill and meadow till the day has gone.
And as the shades of eve fall soft and damp,
We view the cheerful light of Croteau's Camp,
Where supper laid, we nobly did our share.
Food never tasted just as it did there.
Art sots the pace, the others ably follow,
It seemed as if our very legs were hollow.

But to our tale—we had come here to seek
The towering heights of Albert Edward's Peak.
And in the morn, the lad's glad lightsome hearts,
We hit the trail again for distant parts.
The path winds out and in by lake and rill,
By flowering meadows beckoning, until
One's very soul stands still in ecstasy.
Mists linger round like silvery tapestry,
Adorning crag and peak in various hue,
Which dome of sky surmounts in azure blue,
The blooming heather springs, as if to greet
The stranger pressing it beneath his feet.
Dear blooming heather, sweetest sight on earth,
Carrying us back to land that gave us birth,
Awakening memories of distant day.
In retrospect we are again at play,
Anticipation yearning for the time
To leave the old homestead, for distant clime;
But, however distant, time can ne'er erase
The blissful memories of boyhood days.

Ere peak is reached, we cross the fields of snow,
Packed hard as rock, as seasons come and go.
Steep precipice and glacier edge here meet
Yawning ten score of fathoms neath our feet.
Streams—silvery streams—fall down by day and night
To dizzy depths, from yonder dizzy height.
Birds of the snow, the pretty ptarmigan,
Stand tamely by, quite unafraid of man,
Upward we go, by glacier, crag and creek,
And reach our goal, Mt. Albert Edward's Peak.

But here my simple muse doth fold her wings,
Words fail the writer, though the heart still sings
As beauteous grandeur, in profusion spreads,
From Seymour Narrows to the far Sands Heads,
A score of lakes in half a dozen miles
Are set like gems, in various shapes and styles,
The wondrous shades and colours they collect,
To eye for passing artists now reflect.
Forest and meadow at our feet,
Combine to make the joy of life complete,
And as the summer sun glints through the trees,
Where blue spruce wave their branches in the breeze,
King Solomon was not arrayed like these.

Reluctantly we homeward wend our way,
And vow again to meet some other day,
And view some other spot on this blest Isle,
Where nature with her bounty, casts her smile.
So, Au Revoir until another time,
When we again can put our thoughts in rhyme.

PLATEAU CAMP IS NOW CLOSED

Season Was Greatly Affected By Broken Weather

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday October 6, 1932, p. 1.

Everyone's down from the Plateau and it will sleep again in solitude until next year. Mr. E. [Eugene] Croteau came down at the end of last week having closed up his camp. If the weather holds there may be some parties go up yet as long as this glorious weather lasts but they will have to look after themselves. The weather was so broken that it was folly to expect any large number to make the trip. If normal summer conditions had prevailed there is no doubt there would have been many more parties go in and stay. Before he came out Mr. Croteau had a big stove taken in for his kitchen, which will be a great help to him in catering next year. It was slung between two horses on a special rig. It was a tremendous job to get it over the trail, round some of the sharp curves and up the steep hills—but it arrived and has been duly installed.

HIKERS ELECT THEIR OFFICERS

Comox & District Mountaineering Club Held Meeting On Thursday

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday October 6, 1932, p. 7.

A faithful few of the Comox & District Mountaineering Club turned out for the annual meeting at the City Hall on Thursday night [September 30]. Mr. Sid Williams was elected president, Mr. Ben Hughes, vice-president, and Miss Peggy Watt, secretary-treasurer, with an executive of Miss Anderson, Miss C. Carwithen, Dr. [Frank] Moore and Messrs. G. [Geoffrey] B. Capes, Roy Harrison, John Bowbrick and W.A. [Adrian] B. Paul. The Comox Logging Co. and the Public Works Department will be asked to clear the trail to Mount Becher hut over which it is now difficult to get owing to fallen logs. There was a good deal of discussion about the Mount Becher hut, which has suffered a good deal at the hands of some of those who have used it. It was felt that nothing could be done but to appeal to them to preserve what was for their use. Some members of the club have done some very useful work at the cabin and on the trail. Mr. Sid Williams and some friends have completely re-roofed Anderson's cabin, which will be a very useful resting place on the way to Mount Becher when the snow is deep in the winter and the going is hard. At the Mount Becher cabin there are now three stoves, one in each section, and the bunks have all been re-netted. Other committees will be appointed by the executive. In addition to the officers appointed, Messrs. William Douglas and C. [Clinton] S. Wood were appointed honorary presidents as a mark of appreciation of what they have done for the club. The financial statement shows that sixty dollars is still owed on the cabin, this being the debt still remaining on its original cost. It was decided to hold hikes to places of interest in the district during the winter months, possibly every month.

MOUNTAINEERING

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday October 27, 1932, p. 2.

Hikers and hunters on Mount Becher Trail, on Sunday, found that the snow they could see from Courtenay was first found at Andersons cabin, not in any quantity, but in patches: and from there to the cabin, spots here and there, but nothing to make the going heavy. What two hikers did find, however, was that the trail had almost been obliterated where logging had occurred. In fact, had two hunters not put them on their way twice, they might never have got through. Now that the season for hiking is opening some easy way of direction must be found if the cabin is to be popular this year. At the cabin the girls found the floor dirty and pots and pans left anywhere, rusty and full of water. They cleaned up before they came away, and if other people who have no respect for themselves or for other people's property don't get there first, it will be in good condition for the next party of hikers.

ALPINE CLUB HAS LAST EXPEDITION OF YEAR TO CAMP

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday November 15, 1932, p. 3.

Thirteen members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada joined the last official outing of the year to the Lake of the Seven hills camp, held during the week-end. Weather notwithstanding, eight members, under Thomas Goodlake's leadership, sallied forth from the camp on Saturday and made the ascent of Mount Empress, reporting a most enjoyable trip when they returned to the hut on Saturday evening. The lake is reported to be higher than ever before, due to the rains. Claude L. Harrison, outing convener, went up to the camp on Thursday afternoon and had things in readiness for the remainder of the party which came on Friday morning. Circumstances turned the expedition into an indoor work party, devoted to putting some finishing touches on the hut, including the placing of four of the six windows, and the erection in the main hall. The remainder of the windows will be put in during the next few days.

TO LECTURE TONIGHT ABOUT WILD ANIMALS

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday November 24, 1932, p. 10.

Under the auspices of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, Brigadier-General Sir Charles Delme-Radcliffe will give a lantern-lecture tonight at the Shrine Hall on "Wild Animals." All the slides to be shown by Sir Charles will be of animals he has actually seen in the jungle or plains of India and Africa, or in the hinterlands of British Columbia, and he will have many thrilling stories to tell in connection with their appearance on the screen. Arthur O. Wheeler, president of the Alpine Club, will be in the chair and will introduce the speaker. The lecture will begin at 8:15 p.m.

ALPINE CLUB

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday November 25, 1932, p. 6.

The annual general meeting of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada will be held at the Y.W.C. A. on Tuesday December 6, at 8 o'clock.

PICTURES OF WILD BEASTS INTEREST MEMBERS OF THE CLUB

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday November 25, 1932, p. 12.

Brigadier-General Sir Charles Delme-Radcliffe, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O., gave his interesting address on "Wild Animals" last evening for the first time before the Alpine Club of Canada, the address having been given on several previous occasions before various local organizations. Mr. Arthur O. Wheeler, F.R.G.S., president of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, introduced Sir Charles, and referred to his visit to the Alpine Club camp at Glacier during the Summer, when he was a welcome guest of the club members. A series of splendid slides depicting wild life in Africa passed interest to the anecdotes and personal reminiscences of the speaker. Many of the photographs had been taken in the game reservations of East and West Africa, where an excellent opportunity for observing the habits of the animals had been obtained. Stories of the cruelty and fearfulness of the man-eating lions were told with graphic realism by Sir Charles, and among the finest pictures were those of giraffes, leopards and tigers and elephants. The appreciation of the audience was shown by enthusiastic applause at the conclusion of the address.

A.O. WHEELER IS CHAIRMAN

Again Chosen To Direct Vancouver Island Section Of Alpine Club

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday December 8, 1932, p. 3.

At the annual meeting of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada Tuesday evening, A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler was again the choice of the meeting for chairman of the organization. No other name was placed in nomination. For vice-chairman, W. [William] H. Dougan was re-elected by acclamation. For the position of secretary, G. [Guy] M. Shaw declined to act upon his name being submitted for re-election. Mrs. R. Healey-Kerr was named to the position, with Thomas Goodlake as assistant secretary. Gordon Cameron was re-elected treasurer. The executive officers elected were C. [Claude] L. Harrison, Miss Janet Bell and R. [Robert] D. McCaw.

New Year's Camp

During the progress of the meeting the chairman, Mr. Wheeler, gave the information that while he had the official information on the subject, he had been informed by a member of the executive that the annual camp of the Alpine Club of Canada would next year be held "amid the alplands at the head of Eremite Valley, a branch of the famous Tonquin Valley of Jasper Park." The reports covering the year which were presented, indicated that the interest in the club had been well maintained. Mr. Wheeler praised the camp established at the Lake of the Seven Hills.

Nears Completion

C.L. Harrison reported for the committee in charge of the building of the camp, that the work of construction was practically completed. All that remained to be done was the putting in position of the fireplace. This would be completed by Spring. Mr. Wheeler advised the local section to cultivate the taking of photographs for submission in the competition of the Dominion-wide organization. At the conclusion of the business, Major E. [Edward] O. Wheeler, son of the chairman of the section, presented some views he had taken in South Africa descriptive of the life of that continent.



First light at the hut. Photo by Nadja Steiner submitted to the ACCVI 2021 Photo Competition Vancouver Activity category

ACCVI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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David Lemon

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More about Hišim'awił [here](#)

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***From the Front Cover:
Rugged approach at night.***

Photo by John Relyea-Voss

Thank you to this month's contributors:

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Well done everyone!

