KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1997 **Next deadline: March 1**

Last Issue!

This is it. Your very last issue of the newsletter that you eagerly await each month. Not only that, you will be STRICKEN from the list of active KMC members, won't get to hiking camp or get a summer schedule. How can you avert this disaster? Right now, check the mailing label on the envelope that brought you this devastating news and if the **Curr.Yr** is 96, then get out your cheque book and send money!! Individuals $20.00, Couples $25.00, and Youth to 18 only $10.00. The address remains Box 221, Rossland V0G 1Y0. Do it now!!

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

Winter Schedule Note that anyone interested in going on a trip must contact the leader before showing up at the rendezvous.

Feb. 15: trip cancelled

Feb. 16: probably to Berry Mountain. Sue Port (365-6056). Note that this is a change in leader. Viv is off to Hawaii and Sue was the only one sympathetic enough to help out!

Feb. 20: Directors' meeting at Muriel Walton's. 7:30. Note that the meeting day is switched to Thursdays until further notice.

Feb. 23: Bob Hellman (825-9571)

Feb. 25: Wild Rivers, Wild Lands. Multimedia slide show by Ken Madsen, 7:30 Capitol Theatre, Nelson. Details on page 2.

Mar. 2: Dwain Boyer (825-4654)

Mar. 9: Peter Tchir (359-7440)

Mar. 15 (Saturday): David Mitchell (354-4052)

Mar. 16: Michener Creek Falls. Dennis Holden (365-2715). Light touring equipment suitable.

Mar. 23: Vivien Bowers (825-4392). Note that this is a change in leader. Light touring equipment suitable.

Mar. 23: Roland Perrin (352-5480)

Mar. 23: First trip of the hiking schedule. More details next month, but don't put away your skis yet; the winter schedule runs till April 27!

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

* Hiking Camp information and Registration form



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 221 Rossland, BC V0G 1Y0

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Peter Macek
Site 7, Comp 10, RR#1
Slocan Park, BC V0G 2E0
phone and fax: 226-7576
e-mail: pmacek@selkirk.bc.ca

MEMBERSHIP

The club dues are:
Individual $20.00
Couple/family $25.00
Junior $10.00
Send to: Box 221, Rossland V0G 1Y0

SUBMISSIONS

I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip leaders should submit their writeups as soon after their trips as possible. Articles can be submitted in most written and electronic forms.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Suitability for publication is at the editor's discretion. Articles may be edited for clarity or for length. If you feel this may affect the integrity of your work, please attach a note to that effect.

From the Editor...

As this issue of the newsletter is about to go to duplicating, I have been approached to include a Jumbo Pass newsletter. The proposal is of obvious concern to members and our newsletter is not full length this month, so I intend to add it on. If it's not included, well, I guess the logistics didn't work out, so you'll have to look for information on the proposal elsewhere.

Karabiner

Many people have promised articles, but so far Ron has receivedmore promises than articles. If you are planning to put together a Karabiner article, do it now. Electronic versions can be sent directly to Joan Grodzki at joan@netidea. com or contact Ron Perrier at 365-7255.

Kootenay/Boundary Land Use Plan

This has been brought down by the provincial government and affects what happens in our mountains. Copies of the documents are available at the Forest Service and the Ministry of the Environment. Chapter 4 deals with tourism and Chapter 5 with general guidelines. The opportunity for public input disappears soon.

Jumbo Pass

Once again in the news as the proposal moves to the next stage of the review process. This period of public input ends at the end of February. Contact Ted Ibrahim (825-0085) or other members of the Conservation Committee for information.

Wild Rivers / Wild Lands

This is a multimedia show put together to raise awareness of the Yukon's environment and its endangered rivers and lands . The evening is sponsored by several environmental groups and put on by Ken Madsen, who is probably known best for his writing (magazine articles and Rivers of the Yukon) and amazing kayak descents. Capitol Theatre, Nelson 7:30 on Tuesday, February 25. Tickets at the door, suggested price $5.00.

Summer Trip Schedule

By the time you read this, the summer trips schedule will have been put together by the able committee of Bob Dean, Ted Ibrahim, and Norman Thyer. In addition, Paul Allen is proposing to put together a climbing schedule. If you have any favourite climbs that you would like to have on this schedule, contact Paul at 362-5832.

Forest Renewal BC

The KMC directors had a presentation on road deactivation and watershed restoration. Part of what FRBC is going to do is to restore and repair access to backcountry areas including upgrading and repairing trails. Although it is unlikely to establish new trails, they will do work on existing access, even if it is not an officially recognized trailhead. If anyone has a pet project, it's worth contacting the Forest Service. They are conducting a series of information sessions. The ones still coming up are February 11-12 at the Nakusp Legion, and February 13 at the Silvery Slocan in Slocan City (both 3:00 - 9:00).

Snowmobile/Ski Backcountry Use Conflict

After many hours of volunteer time, the conflict resolution process was dropped recently because of the government downsizing. The KMC will protest vehemently to the Minister. It would also be valuable for individual members to write to the minister and point out that resolving the land use conflict now would save a lot of grief and expense later on. Contact David Mitchell (354-4052) for more information.

This latest development makes it even more important that the club maintains its presence in our traditional ski areas. The disputed turf includes the Grassy and Stead huts, so why don't you consider a ski trip into the Bonnington Range this weekend?

Material for Newsletter

Hello out there. This newsletter depends for its existence on the material you send in. I try to put it out approximately once a month, but if I don't have much to put in it, the issue is delayed - the cost of sending out a five page newsletter isn't much more than one with two pages. If you see something of interest, send it along; we don't all subscribe to the magazines that you do. Many thanks to my regular contributors (Fred Thiessen wins first prize!)

I do get comments about trip reports, by the way. People like to read about the trips , so even what seems like a very ordinary outing to youshould get written up.

Change of Address

Rod Beupre (613) 966-8321
35 Strathcona Drive
Belleville, Ontario K8N 4J1

Peter Bullock
2409 - 12th Avenue
Castlegar

Michael Kirker
815 Prospect Avenue
SW CalgaryT2T 0W6

For Sale

-30 North Face Sleeping Bag. Qualofil. $150.00 Guaranteed to keep you toasty! Call Nancy at 352-2173.

TRIP REPORTS

Mount Gimli & Sunrise Peak

(The two-in-one report)
August 11 & September 29, 1996
Dave Shadbolt

On the Mount Gimli trip, which I led in August, I had to ask: "Which one is, Gimli?" My question surprised no one who knew it was my first visit to the Valhallas. Fortunately, I had participants with previous ascents to offset this ignorance and ensure a successful trip. The party consisted of somewhere around 11 bodies, eight of whom made the summit, including a visitor recently graduated from Oxford University. (My short-term memory problems prevent a more detailed report.)

One month later, I again "led" a trip, and on-route to the Silver Spray Cabin needed reminding by Bob Dean that the intended ascent was Evening Star. In any event, after basking in the late morning sun over brunch, we abandoned the ascent of Evening Star, settling instead for a visit to the cabin and a siesta. We set off with this noble goal in mind. Ten minutes later, to solve my conscience, I suggested to Bob Dean that we take a saunter up Sunrise by the West Ridge. "Deano", who already felt uneasy at the prospect of indulging himself in an easy afternoon at the cabin, needed little persuasion, neither at that point did the duo of Cunningham and McKenzie. Anna and Norm Thyer, along with Margaret Hornby, continued onto the cabin.

Although Deano had himself made the ascent before, he could not recall the route as the event took place when mountaineers still wore hob-nailed boots. As a result, our quartet never gained the west ridge, but climbed directly onto the summit via a series of gullies. Patches of snow and ice, combined with loose rock made the route rather treacherous, so to avoid head-butting a dislodged rock we moved as a unit. At one stage, however, after lagging behind to take a pee break, I narrowly missed decapitation from a close encounter with an 18 inch projectile. On another occasion, one of our party precipitated a deluge of boulders down the face.

The ascent took one hour and forty minutes. As the highest mountain in that group, the summit of Sunrise provided splendid views, but a shortage of time and cold butts motivated an early departure. Fortified by Power Bars and more time honoured mountain-top foods (regretfully no one had a Mars Bar), we traversed the mountain, before descending to the cabin. The other three had already left, thereby dispelling any hope of welcoming mugs of hot tea. After a short break, we departed and arrived back at the parking lot at 5:30.

Editor's note: David doesn't win the most prompt writeup award for this, but by far the biggest delay was mine as I tried to decode the electronic gibberish that our communication deteriorated into. Sorry, Dave.

The Turkey Burn

December 26, 1996 Fred Thiessen

The annual Turkey Burn ritual for 1996 was Plewman Basin. We all assembled at around 0830 at the parking lot and set out for the Basin in very deep fresh snow. Many thanks to the trail breakers which allowed us to reach the small peak south of Mt. Plewman around 1230 or so. The deep snow allowed for limited turns and we were back at the cars around 1500 hrs. Based on an average weight of 60 kg. and 5 hours of exercise, we felt that collectively we burned 28 800 calories. plus basal. I'm not sure how many calories. are in a 5 kg turkey (25 000?), but we felt that the group effort by all 16 of us burned off at least one small turkey. Thanks for all who attended. We couldn't have made our energy expenditure goal of one turkey without you.

We were: The Port family, Anne Berlind, Gary Staples, Peter McIver, Cathy Scot May, Andre Zimmerman, Roland Perrin, Eric White, Chris Mansbridge, Susan ?, Dave Toews and Fred Thiessen.

Magnetic Declination

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1997 **Next deadline: April 1**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

1997 memberships are now overdue. Note that the address has changed to:

RR#1, S - 13, C - 19
Nelson V1L 4P5

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TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

Note that anyone interested in going on a trip must contact the leader before showing up at the rendezvous.

March 15 (Saturday): (ski) David Mitchell (354-4052)

March 16: (ski) Michener Creek Falls. Dennis Holden (365-2715). Light touring equipment suitable.

March 23: (ski) Vivien Bowers (825-4392). Note that this is a change in leader. Light touring equipment suitable.

March 23: (ski) Roland Perrin (352-5480)

March 23: Glade / Brilliant Trail A1, Drew Desjardines (825-0072)

March 25: Directors' meeting 7:30 Muriel Walton's (365-6519)

Safeway 1000

March 28-30 (Easter): (ski) Anyone interested in a 2 to 3 day ski touring trip in the Bonnington Range, call Peter Jordan, 352-5225 pjordan@mail.awinç.com

Safeway 1000

March30: Pulpit Rock A1, Anita Van Der Meer (354-4540)

March 31: Purcell Mountains (Jumbo Creek) slide show, Trail. Details on page 3.

April 6: (ski) Peter Tchir (359-7440)

April 6: Yellow Pine Trail A1, Renata Belczyk (365-5134)

April 13: (ski) Dave Horner (352-3223)

April 13: Brilliant Bluffs A1, Debbie Webb (365-8360)

April 20: (ski) Dave Toews (825-9346)

0700 leave Nelson

April 20: Columbia River Overlook (Robson) A1 Hazel Kirkwood (365-5940)

April 25: Spring Potluck, "Ten Year Retrospective of Hiking Camps". Details in next issue

April 26 (Sat): Merry Creek Trail A1, Lesley Killough (365-7424)

April 27: (ski) Kootenay Joe, Carl Johnston (354-4075)

April 27: Caldera Loop (Rossland) A1, Jill Watson (362-5660)

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

* Summer trip schedule
* Mountaineering School form and information
* Responsibility guidelines



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Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

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Site 7, Comp 10, RR#1
Slocan Park, BC V0G 2E0
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From the Editor...

This issue was delayed due to some technical (i.e. computer) difficulties, so my apologies to the people inquiring about the Mountaineering Course.

This issue has the hiking schedule in it, but seeing as it's snowing outside yet again, maybe we should just extend the ski schedule!

Club Directors 1996/97

Nelson / Slocan Valley

President: Dave Mitchell (354-4052)
310 High St., Nelson V1L 3Z8
Summer Trips: Ray Neumar (352-7042)
RR#1,S-26,C-2, Nelson V1L 5P4
Conservation: Ted Ibrahim (825-0085)
RR#1,S-23,C-41 Nelson V1L 5P4
(22-1691 Highway 3A, N. Nelson)
Newsletter: Peter Macek (226-7576)
RR#1,S-7,C-10, Slocan Park V0G 2E0
(3003 Slocan Valley E Road)
Equipment, Cabins, Trails: Mark Hamilton
#3, 723 Hendrix, Nelson V1L 2B1 (352-5824)
Climbing Camp: Larry Smith (359-7965)
RR#1,Box 6,S-5, Slocan Park V0G 2E0
Vice-President: Drew Desjardins (825-0072)
RR#1,S13,C-19, Nelson V1L 5P4
Winter Trips: Peter Jordan (352-5225)
5240 W.Gore St., Nelson V1L 3H3

Castlegar

Secretary: Muriel Walton (365-6519)
2433 10th Ave., Castlegar V1N 3A1
Mtneering School: Peter Bullock (365-3969)
2409 12th Ave., castlegar V1N 4A9

Rossland/Trail/Montrose

Treasurer: Elaine Martin (367-7335)
Box 162 Montrose V0G 1P0
(615 5th St., Montrose)
Karabiner: Ron Perrier (362-5289)
Box 652, Rossland V0G 1Y0
(2190 Georgia St.) (365-7255)
Work: 1840 8th Ave., Castlegar V1N 2Y2
Karabiner and Membership assistance:
Joan Grodzki (825-0072)
RR#1,S-13,C-19 Nelson V1L5P4
Hiking Camp: Laurie Charlton (362-9461)
Box 621, Rossland V0G 1Y0
(1189 Earl St., Rossland) (362-9461)
Entertainment: Joanne Baldassi
Box 621, Rossland V0G 1Y0
(1189 Earl St., Rossland)

Slide Show

31 March, 1997 7:30
Basement lounge of St. Andrews Anglican Church, 1347 Pine Ave., Trail

West Kootenay Naturalists present
Brian Connery - Photographer and naturalist, showing slides and video of

PURCELL MOUNTAINS

(from Brewer Lakes to Purcells), with emphasis on Jumbo Creek.
Donations appreciated ($2)
Further information: Pat Thomson 362-7649

Magnetic Declinations for the Kootenays

Fred Thiessen

PIN ME ON YOUR BULLETIN BOARD.

For those of us who don't have GPS units and still use our trusty compasses and a 1:50 000 scale map, the following is of interest, as declinations change over time and we have to reset the declination in our compass. You will notice on your 1:50 000 scale maps, in the lower right corner (south east corner), there is usually a note onthe magnetic declination and how much it is decreasing annually. Every 5 years or so an updated list comes available, and this is the latest one, so if you have some old maps, you may wish to take notice of these updates, which were current to January 1, 1996, and reset the declination in your compass and record the appropriate declination on the maps you are using.

Location	Magnetic dec (deg, min)	Annual Change (min)
Castlegar	18 58 E	6.7 W
Cranbrook	18 29 E	6.7 W
Creston	18 32 E	6.5 W
Golden	19 49 E	7.5 W
Grand Forks	19 02 E	6.7 W
Invermere	19 06 E	7.1 W
Kaslo	19 04 E	6.9 W
Mica Ck	20 42 E	8.0 W
Nakusp	19 29 E	7.1 W
Nelson	18 58 E	6.8 W
Revelstoke	19 59 E	7.5 W
Sparwood	18 15 E	6.7 W

Nancy Green Recreation Area

February 21, 1997, News Bulletin.

The Nancy Green Recreation Area, previously managed as a Recreation Area under the Park Act is no more. On February 21, 1997 an Order in Council was passed deleting the Recreation Area designation and the area is now Provincial Forest which will be managed by the Arrow Forest District. The Government decision in the announcement of the Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan had already made this decision, but the OIC was delayed until a process was in place for the BC Forest Service to assume management for the area. The recreation trails in the area will be managed as Forest Service trails. The contact for recreation management in the area is the Resource Officer Recreation in the Arrow Forest District.

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Wanted

(1) Large ski-pole baskets >15cm diameter. No plastic junk.
(2) Old-style Silvretta ski bindings that take almost any boot.
(3) (a) Good bindings for old-style snowshoes. No antediluvian rawhide junk. or (b) Old tubular webbing for making snowshoe bindings.
(4) A glide-ring for an ice-axe shaft.
Norman Thyer 352-5265
6115 Sproule Creek Road, RR2 S22 C7, Nelson V1L 5P5 E-mail: nthyer@web.net

For Sale

Nordica TR-9 Size 28-28.5 boots, Emery bings plus skis. Used only 8 times. $400 Dave Shadbolt 352-0112

TRIP REPORTS

KOOTENAY PASS

December 22, 1996 Murielle Perrin

After another significant snowfall, we travelled to Kootenay Pass for a day of skiing. With the avalanche conditions being relatively high and considering they were blasting on the north side, the decision had been made to ski on the south side of the pass. It was one of those days that the powder was so deep and light that you could not make a mistake and you returned home believing you were a very good skier (just wait until we meet with Mr. Breakable Crust). Being so close to Christmas, we enjoyed the company of many younger people returning to the Kootenays for the holidays. It is with much pleasure that I can announce that the average age of group members was about 31.

We were: Andre Zimmerman, Roland Perrin, Robin Lindstone, Vivien Bowers, Kendra Wood, Tim Boyer and his brother, Dave Horner, Peter McIver, Kurt Nixon and Amy ?

WHITE QUEEN/YMIR BOWL

January 12, 1997 Mark Hamilton

Those that were keen this day met at 8:00 at the Whitewater ski hill lodge. From here we skinned up the runs to the ridge between Ymir Peak and White Queen. As we looked into the cold sunless Five Mile Basin, our decision was made to keep in the sun. The top of White Queen looked inviting and this is where we all met to look at the amazing view as not a cloud was in the sky. Due east of White Queen is a basin that gets the sun all day and is not a major slog of a return trip. We did three runs on a short slope with good tree skiing in the sun. Lunch was on the flats at the bottom and then we skinned up to get out. We then took the ridge back to the lodge with all the other people that were up on the ridge wanting fresh tracks. In all it was a successful day in the sun with great skiing. Apologies to Curt Nixon, who I neglected to phone the night before. We were: Peter Tchir, Evan McKenzie, Derek Marcoux, Dave Mitchell, Helen, and Mark Hamilton.

SHANNON CREEK

January 19, 1997 Fred Thiessen

Wanting to explore Shannon Creek as the logging roads are open to 5300 ft, we set up an exlporatory outing. We left South Slocan at 0615 and set off for Hills. By Hills it was no longer raining, so we some optimism, we set off up the road. By the time we stopped driving at 0830, we were at 5300', at the drainage, just east of Shannon Lake. So we toured up in the wet new snow to 7300', enjoyed the view of Shannon Lake and had a good ski on the way back. This is pretty good place to go, and one can ski one drainage east of Shannon Lake or the second drainage to the east as road goes by the entrance to this side valley as well.This outing requires high clearance vehicles and should be open until breakup around the end of Feb or early March.

We were: R Perrin, E White, A Stradling sp?, F Thiessen, C Reid and T Neumar.

KOOTENAY PASS - LOST CREEK

January 26, 1997 Peter Jordan

A primo weekend for the backcountry - clear, cold, with fresh powder from a couple of days ago. The avalanche hazard was a bit high though. To find untracked snow on safe slopes, we decided to tour northwest from the Salmo-Creston summit to the head of Lost Creek, an area some of us had explored several weeks earlier. Here is the route description: From the parking lot at 1770 m, follow the usually well-worn trail past the outhouses, NNW to the broad SE part of Cornice Ridge at 1930 m. From here, drop slightly to the N, crossing a short avalanche-prone slope into the forested bowl on the NE side of Cornice Ridge. (There is a safer but more circuitous route through the forest further east.) Ascend NW to a 2050 m col in the north end of Cornice Ridge (grid ref. 960351 on 1:50,000 map). There is a steep but fairly safe route to this col, following open trees on a hump that leads right up to the col. Descend about 70 m down the other side, then cross a gentle open valley, going NW, and climb to the top of the ridge between Stagleap and Lost Creeks at 2090 m (grid ref. 950358). This is on the same ridge as the microwave tower, but 2 bumps to the NE. From here, good ski slopes in open trees descend on all sides. The slope we skied drops 300 m to the ENE into the head of Lost Creek - a nice consistent

slope of 20-25 deg. with open tree glades. There is some potential avalanche terrain getting off the ridge onto the top of the slope, which is on the lee side - good route-finding skills are necessary. It is just over 3 km from the parking lot, takes about 2 hrs there and 1 hr back. Good visibility helps. It is possible to return by skiing straight south out a creek to the highway, but then you have to walk 2.5 km up the highway to the summit. There is a really good photo of the route on p 197 of Chic Scott's guidebook; also one in the Feb 1997 issue of Powder Magazine which spilled the beans about Ripple Ridge Cabin to millions of Americans. We had fine skiing in beautiful fluffy powder from top to bottom. The temperature in the bottom of Lost Creek where the sun never shines was - 25 C, but as it was calm it was pleasant up above in the sun. Lost Creek is sometimes infested with snowmobiles. They seem to prefer the more north and east sides of the basin, where the pipeline and hydro line cross Lost Creek pass - there was no evidence of tracks on our side, where the good skiing is. As this was Super Bowl weekend, there were no snowmobiles anywhere.

We were: Bob Hellman, Robin Lidstone, Fred Thiessen, Andy Stradling, Tracy Neumar, Joanne Nassey, Katherine Wolters, Bill McKinnon, and Peter Jordan (organizer and scribe).

Kutetl Basin

February 9, 1997 Dwain Boyer

The group left the Whitewater Ski Area parking lot at 8:30 am. We reached the 5-Mile/ Kutetl ridge (7200 ft) at 10:30. It was a bright sunny day with clear skies. We did two runs into the Kutetl basin on superb snow. The lower two thirds of this east facing slope typically remains good skiing when other slopes turn to crud. In past years, I have seen very few tracks on this slope. However, with the relatively long snow drought the 5-Mile Basin and Ymir Bowl were skied out and people were starting to notice this area. We skied down through the Ymir Bowl. The gender balanced crew consisted of JoAnn Nassey, Erica Kellerhals, Andy from Rossland and Dwain Boyer. For those of you who decided to stay on the valley bottom this day you missed a good one. Dwain Boyer; Tripper

KMC Responsibility Guidelines for Coordinators and Participants

Responsibilities of Party Coordinators attending club trips

Before the trip

1. Do not undertake organization of a trip beyond your capabilities. Change the objective or arrange for another coordinator.
2. Be familiar with the area (unless the trip is exploratory in intent). If you have not done the climb recently, a recce a few weeks before the trip is an excellent idea. Talk to people familiar with the area; check the guidebooks, old Newsletters, old Karabiners, CAJ journals, Parks Branch, Forest Service, etc.
3. Pick up or ensure the necessary equipment is on the trip: Ice axes, crampons, Pieps, first aid kit, and repair kit. Make arrangements for huts, campsites, and registration as required.
4. Notify a responsible person where you are going and when you will be coming back. Tell them when you return!

Choosing and organizing the party

5. The coordinator has full authority to reject anyone he or she feels is unsuited for the trip. For more difficult trips ask people unknown to you what their qualifications are and who they have climbed with.
6. Explain to people what the trip entails: how difficult, how strenuous, what equipment is needed. This is especially important for newcomers, who may not understand the need for proper boots or even raingear.
7. The coordinator arranges the most economical use of cars. Each passenger should pay a reasonable proportion of the gas and oil expenses of the trip.
8. Make clear arrangements for the assembly of the party at an easily recognizable place at a definite time. Wait a reasonable time for latecomers.

On the trip

9. Before leaving the cars, check that everyone, especially anyone inexperienced, is properly equipped. Those who are not should not start out.

10. On many trips it is a good idea to appoint an endperson who comes last and makes sure no stragglers fall by the wayside. The endperson generally carries the first aid kit. In a large group a second coordinator may be desirable to cover the stragglers.
11. Set a pace that allows the party to stay together, both going up and coming down. Space rests so as to prevent straggling! With large parties, count numbers once in a while to make sure everyone is still together.
12. The coordinator doesn't need to remain in front providing he or she can maintain control of the party. The coordinator and all experienced members have a responsibility to give instruction to the less experienced. Team less experienced members with more experienced members.
13. All decisions should be made with a margin of safety. When in doubt, use common sense and accepted normal procedure.

- allow enough time for the trip; start early.
- rope up before a difficult section.
- turn back when necessary: difficulties, a weak party, lack of time, weather, fatigue, etc.
- watch for avalanche and rockfall hazard, and act accordingly.
- in wet or cold weather watch for hypothermia in poorly clad individuals.
- stay in touch with the group's feelings and respect them.

14. The coordinator should stay at the cars until everyone is down.

After the trip

15. Return club equipment promptly so next party can use it.
16. Send a trip report to the newsletter editor.

Responsibilities for members attending club trips

1. Ensure your abilities are up to the trip's difficulty. Use the trip grading system on the schedule.
2. Phone the coordinator several days in advance to confirm your attendance, preferably by Wednesday evening at the latest.
3. Show up on time and be prepared physically, mentally, and equipment-wise for the outing you are going on.
4. Return rented/borrowed equipment promptly.
5. Share expenses.

In case of an accident

1. The coordinator should consider the severity and implications of the accident, the remaining hazards, the terrain, and the availability of resources when deciding what to do next.
2. The coordinator should ensure that everyone's present safety is maintained and danger is minimized as is consistent with emergency activities.
3. If help is needed, the coordinator should organize an orderly expedition.
4. If conditions permit, witnesses should stay in the area to provide any necessary information to rescue personnel.
5. All party members should (1) informs the person(s) in charge of any special abilities; (2)ensure their own safety and, if their help is not required, stay clear of rescue activities; (3) cooperate with everyone involved in emergency operations.
6. If the accident is serious enough to warrant aerial evacuation, contact the nearest ambulance or RCMP detachment who will dispatch a helicopter with a first aid attendant.

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KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1997 **Next deadline: May 10**

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

Classification of Trips (APPROXIMATE)
NOTE: The 'average' trip is rated C-3
Physical: A-easy B-fair C-average D-strenuous E-very strenuous
Technical: 1-hike 2-scramble 3-scramble, perhaps with some exposure 4-climb 5-climb, continual belays

April 20: (ski) Dave Toews (825-9346)

April 20: Columbia River Overlook (Robson) A1 Hazel Kirkwood (365-5940)

April 22: Directors' meeting Muriel Walton's at 7:30. (365-6519)

April 25: Spring Potluck Banquet, Robson Hall 6:30. Details below

April 26 (Sat): Merry Creek Trail A1 Lesley Killough (365-7424)

April 27: (ski) Kootenay Joe, Carl Johnston (354-4075)

April 27: Caldera Loop (Rossland) A1 Jill Watson (362-5660)

May 4: Evans Creek Trail B1 Anja Logodi (362-7247)

May 11: Cabin Peak B1 Dave Mitchell (354-4052) Ice axe 0800 Nelson exit

May 14 (Wed): Mt Cody C3 Kim Kratky (352-3895)

May 17 (Sat): Fry Creek B1 Mary Woodward (825-4491)

May 18: Granite Mt B2 Jill Watson (362-5660)

May 18: Mt Brennan on skis D3 Peter Jordan (352-5225)

May 24 (Sat): K & S Railway (Sandon) A1 Carol Potasnyk (368-6840)

May 25: Pulpit Rock B2 / Mt Nelson C2 Evan McKenzie (352-7801)

Spring Potluck Dinner

April 25 Robson Hall

The entertainment will be "Hiking Camp Retrospective". Laurie Charlton is organizing a slide show on the highlights of the hiking camps of the last number of years.

Come at 6:30 and the potluck supper will start at 7:00. This year please bring:

A - L: a delicious main dish
M - R: a scrumptious salad
S - Z: a mouth-watering dessert

Anyone in the Nelson area wishing to carpool can contact Norman Thyer at 352-5265

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

* Climbing Camp information and application form.

* GPS receivers



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Peter Macek
Site 7, Comp 10, RR#1
Slocan Park, BC V0G 2E0
phone and fax: 226-7576
e-mail: pmacek@selkirk.bc.ca

MEMBERSHIP

The club dues are:

Individual	$20.00
Couple/family	$25.00
Junior	$10.00

Send to: RR#1, S-13, C-19, Nelson, BC V1L ~~4P5~~ 5P4

SUBMISSIONS

I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip leaders should submit their writeups as soon after their trips as possible. Articles can be submitted in most written and electronic forms.

EDITORIAL POLICY

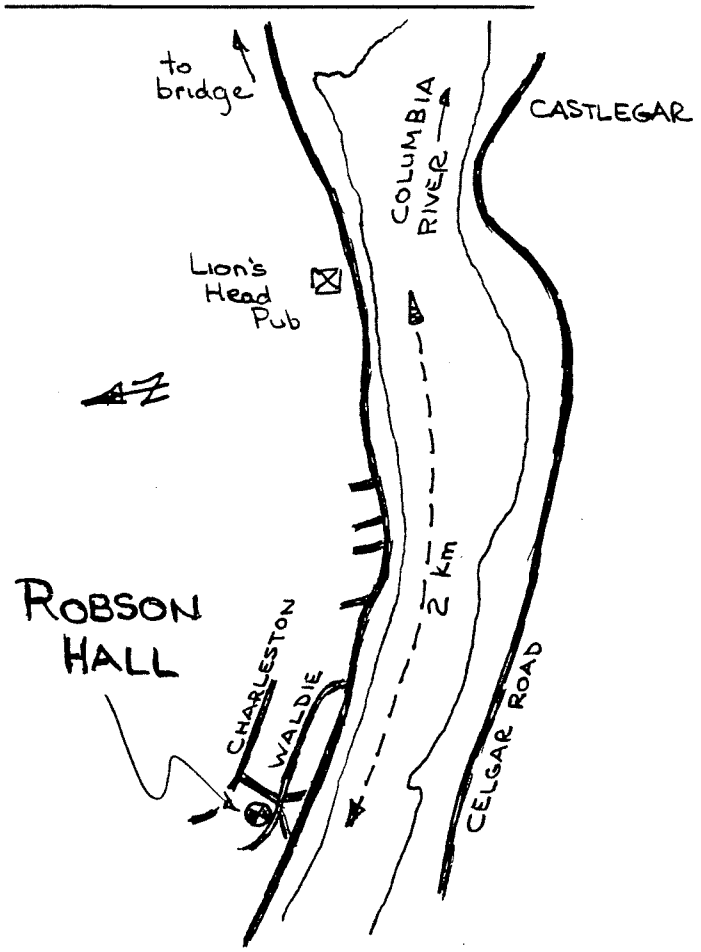
Suitability for publication is at the editor's discretion. Articles may be edited for clarity or for length.

From the Editor...

Summer trips are starting to get into full swing, so at the risk of sounding the same note over and over again, trip leaders please get your trip reports in!

Maybe I should start issuing gold stars for submissions....

First one goes to Fred Thiessen for sending in the GPS report



Trans-Canada Trail

You've probably seen some of the advertisements for this Canada-wide effort. A local steering committee has been set up to organize the section from Christina Lake to Creston. It has decided that there will be two alternatives: the old Dewdney Trail, and the CPR right-of-way to Castlegar, then on to Nelson and continuing to Creston. Friends of Parks and Trails, Castlegar will begin mapping & trail making from Castlegar to Nelson this summer. CPR is being approached about its Christina to Castlegar right-of-way.

The Trail concept would also publicize feeder trails, which could be an area where club members could get involved.

The committee's next meeting is on May 8. If anyone is interested, contact Muriel Walton at 365-6519 or e-mail mwalton@knet.kootenay.net.

Jumbo Pass

The environmental review process is going on quietly and steadily. The end decision will probably be on political as much as environmental grounds, so a letter to your MLA would be useful.

Hiking Camp

As of the beginning of April, the camps were all full except that Laurie was still looking for two cooks. The numbers look as if they have worked out perfectly as there is no one on the waiting list.

Looking for spring ski touring?

Want to climb Mt. Vingolf? Try Shannon Creek. Slocan Forest Products is logging, but not hauling from Shannon Creek. The roads are ploughed to 5500' and there is very good access to the drainage which is the second one to the east of Shannon Lake. this area is north facing and has really good skiing, it also provides good access to Mt. Vingolf, which we didn't climb (we were skiing), but it looked very feasible.since the snow season is almost over, this means the road will be a ploughed out good road for some time yet, so if you are looking for a different place to go and play, this is good area. from Hills, it takes about 40 minutes to the end of the road. -Fred Thiessen

For Sale

Full climbing harnesses. The club is selling the harnesses that have been used for the Mountaineering School. These harnesses have the disadvantage that they are difficult to adjust so that they are comfortable, which makes them awkward for a club, but okay for one owner use. There is a quantity available at $20 each. Contact Olindo Chiocca at 825-4240.

Club Information by E-mail

Bob Dean has started passing on trip information by an e-mail distribution list and those people on the list also got the Summer Trips Schedule about three weeks before the newsletter came out. I could also send out the newsletter as an e-mail attachment, but this would not be complete as some of each issue is still physically cut and pasted.

Anyone with an e-mail address who is interested in getting on Bob's list can drop him a note at bdean@kootcom.kootenay.net. We will look at publishing these addresses as part of the membership list which comes out in late spring.

Kokanee Park History

Kokanee Glacier Mountaineering Inc., which runs the winter program in Kokanee Glacier Park, is currently building a website where people can get information regarding cabin bookings and general information about Kokanee Glacier Park. As part of the website they would like to include some history of the park.

If anyone has any information or sources could they please email me at armin@netidea.com - Armin Hasenkox

GPS Essentials

by Tony Knight (Alpine Club Avalanche Echoes)

The size and cost of GPS receivers has been declining in the last few years to the point where now, for a couple hundred dollars, you can purchase and pack one along on a wilderness trip. So what is a GPS receiver useful for, and do you really need one? The following describes a few essential aspects of portable GPS receivers and might help you decide whether to go to the expense of buying and using one.

what is a GPS useful for and do you really need one?

A GPS receiver triangulates one's own position using signals received from satellites orbiting overhead. The chief advantage of GPS over other navigation instruments is the capability of gibing absolute position directly, even in poor visibility. The "three-dimensional" fix coordinates can be either latitude/longitude or UTM grid, together with elevation in feet or meters. There are a total of 24 satellites orbiting at an altitude of 20,000 km, but at any one location, typically 6 to 8 are above the local horizon. At least 4 satellites are needed for a 3 dimensional position (or 3 satellites, if you are at a known elevation and only need "2D" latitude/longitude). On open water, a low horizon means that the likelihood of receiving at least 4 satellites is high. Mountainous terrain can reduce the number of satellites visible, sometimes to the point where a fix is not possible. It is usually possible to get a 3D fix in open meadows, ice fields, etc., but may be more difficult in narrow valley bottoms, steep sidehills or cliff areas. The currently available handheld models provide a plot of satellites and their position above the horizon, making it possible in some cases to move to a location that is sufficiently clear. If there are sufficient satellite signals, a GPS receiver will be able to acquire a "lock" and compute a position in about 3 to 5 minutes after turn-on. Once locked, the receiver will then continuously update position and will also calculate heading and speed if you are moving. The speed and and heading are surprisingly sensitive and will even detect a 2-3 km/hr walking pace in a given direction.

For finding your position on a map sheet, the UTM grid coordinates are probably the most useful. The receiver will readout the northing/easting coordinates which can then be plotted on a map sheet (e.g. on the 1:50,000 topo maps that have 1 km square UTM grids). The absolute accuracy (i.e. indicated position compared to actual) is about 50 meters horizontally and about 100 meters vertically. The elevation error is random and significantly worse than a good barometer, but the GPS elevation is not subject to errors due to changes in air pressure, making GPS elevation a useful check against an altimeter.

Portable GPS receivers also provide waypoint navigation and "return-to" features. If you know the desired route coordinates, these can be entered into the unit in advance of a trip. The receiver will then provide distance and "course-to-steer" as you move along the route. The return-to feature of a receiver will allow you to find your way back to a location without a map or other references. The receiver can record a reference location (e.g. base camp) or a set of points along a route, then will compute direction/distance to travel to return to the reference location or back track a route.

As with any battery-operated device, a GPS receiver can fail after extended use. The Garmin and Magellan units use four "AA" batteries and claim about 20 hours of continuous operation, less if cold. I recently found that my GPS receiver would not turn on in -20 deg C weather until the batteries were warmed inside my jacket.

GPS can be one more useful tool in your routefinding kit. It works in all weather and provides position and elevation information directly. It can be used for navigating a preset route, or recording an actual route taken. It is good for recording fixed positions for later use, e.g. campsite, food drop site, or coordinate of a geographic feature. For kayaking or sailing, a portable GPS is a great addition and is easily stowed for travel. For backpacking and skiing, I think a set of 1:50,000 maps and a compass are the first items to take, but a GPS receiver can add a bit more information if you wish to pack it along.

Commercially available units:

- Garmin GPS-38 $329 - Mountain Equip Coop
- Magellan GPS-2000 $229 - Canadian Tire

For more information, check out the following web sites:

- www.gps4fun.com/maincat.html
- www.orbital.com/Prods_n_Servs/Services/Magellan/index.html

Discovery Canada

Discovery Canada has a series of activities planned for this summer that members may be interested in. These include guided hikes and bike trips, photography courses, rock climbing for teenagers, and moonlight concerts on top of Mt. Buchanan.

For information, contact them at Box 920, Kaslo V0G 1M0, phone 353-7349, fax 353-7559, e-mail discover@netidea.com.

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TRIP REPORTS

Ruby Creek

February 1&2, 1997 David Horner

13 of us assembled at 6:00 am (the Thiessen/Perrin mandatory start time) Saturday morning. We drove to approximately 9 km. on the Shannon Creek Forest Service road. There we were met by Dale Caton of Valhalla Mountain Touring and his 12 passenger snow cat. A short ride took us to his Ruby Creek cabin. Skis on shortly after 10:00 am we proceeded up Sapphire Ridge. South facing slopes were suncrusted and alpine areas wind blasted. After some discussion we descended into Ruby Basin and skied the treed North facing slopes of Ruby Mountain. 4:00 p.m. saw us arrive at the cabin. Saunas, appetizers, refreshments and an exceptional multi-course pot luck followed. (Thanks to Roland, our culinary organizer.) Roland provided the Sunday alarm function. After a hot breakfast and Taster's Choice coffee (the contributor of which shall remain anonymous), we proceeded to the Shannon Lake area. We had some sunny breaks and views were great. We skied this area for the day and proceeded out via a run affectionately known as 'Sh_t For Brains' (previously named in honour of one of our trip participants) to where our vehicles were parked. Dale met us there with our overnight gear and we headed home. Ski conditions were generally good but a little on the tricky side. A good time was had by all. Basically this was a Dave and Peter trip. We were: Dave Grant, Jeremy Grant, Dave Toews, Dave Mitchell, Dave Horner (Trip Organizer), Peter Jordan, Peter Tchir, Peter McIver, Roland Perrin, Fred Thiessen, Vivien Bowers (who added an element of civility to the trip), Sandy Moe, Jim Wood.

The South Route Summit Sans Oxygen

February 3, 1997

This is an unedited excerpt from the mountaineering diary of Olindo Chiocca

6:00 am

Morning arrived in a hurry. Outside I could hear the wind screaming in agony as it bounced off various mountain faces and scraped against the peaks. I shook Jesse (Boulaine) awake and we both took a look outside from our wood and glass bivvy. Things looked quite grim. A heavy sleety rain like snow was falling from a high cloud. I pulled out the binos from under a pile of cups, plates and wet cold socks and tried to figure out a possible route. Passing the glasses back and forth we both came to the conclusion that our only chance would be the south face. There seemed to be a possible route, but not without heavy work in the snow and delicate trail-lace work through some tough pitches. It would have to be done in one final thrust because of our shortage of food and fuel; with only four high energy bars (which taste like sawdust at this elevation) and what is left in our fuel canister.

Out main concern at this point is if we can withstand the rigours of attempting the final thrust fur the top without oxygen. Our months of high altitude and chamber training had stead us well to this point, but all the nay sayers have left us with nagging doubts; regardless, we're pushing on.

11:30 am

After having packed up the minimum, we were ready to go. We roped up, checked our knots and moved on. After some moderate terrain, we moved into some steep pitches. Jesse started by cutting steps, and I was sure to hold down a good belay. We moved in 20 to 30 foot intervals, alternating the lead. All went well till about 300 feet from the summit, here fate took a cruel twist. I discovered that Jesse had forgotten to pack the "Royal Scroll". Without it, our kaybo stops would be unbearable, and with the previous evening's chili and pickled onions in a power struggle in my stomach, it was now my prime directive to leave my mark. Fortunately for the both of us, a number of flat smooth rocks were exposed in a wind swept

area, and they rose admirably to the challenge. Following this strategically placed stop, we continued on. Our breathing continued to get more laborious and my feet felt like they were encased in a pair of Al Capone's designer concrete loafers. But we pressed on. As we moved higher the summit disappeared from view. We continued to switch back and forth in shorter and shorter intervals with the fierceness of the wind reminding us that we should turn back. Just 40 vertical feet from the summit I was ready to pull the pin, Jesse convinced me to push on. I was short of breath and my left middle toe was frozen to the inside of my boot causing great hobble. I could tell that Jesse was suffering just as much if not more, but I know he didn't want to complain, mainly because I had made that chili and he didn't want to offend me. We continued to press on. A few more turns, and some minor technical manoeuvring and we were on top! The joy was unparalleled. We had summited Pulpit Rock without oxygen and for the full time on the expedition we didn't have to hear one word about Glen Clark, O.J. or mutual funds.

Five Mile Basin

March 2, 1997 Dwain Boyer

Left the Whitewater parking lot at 8:00 am. Skied into the 5 Mile drainage and did two long runs in knee deep powder. Best runs of the year for some of us. Along were: Peter Tchir, Fred Thiessen, Roland Perrin, Robin Lidstone, and Tim and Dwain Boyer.

Yellow Pine Trail

April 6, 1997 Renate Belczyk

21 people travelled up and down the Yellow Pine Trail, among them a three month old child. The weather was beautiful and the vistas down the Arrow Lake quite striking.

We had stopped for lunch at the second view point. From there, the group scrambled up the hillside. Very few flowers were out. We only saw one Yellow Bell, a couple of Spring Beauties, and a small white flower that nobody could identify.

Bob Dean and a few other hardy souls hiked higher into the hills while the rest of us were back at our cars at Syringa Creek by 1:30.



1997 CLIMBING CAMP

Clemenceau Icefield Area JULY 26 - AUGUST 4

LOCATION: Mt. Clemenceau and the surrounding peaks and glaciers lie north of Golden at the head of the Cummings River. The camp will probably be located just to the south-east of Mt. Clemenceau. Climbing in the area involves extensive glacier travel plus the usual mixed climbing associated with the Rockies. Peaks include Clemenceau, Tusk, Duplicate, Apex, Shackleton and Pic Tordu. The Grassi hut is located in the general area and arrangements can be made with the Alpine Club of Canada for its use, although it is not well located for mountaineering.

MAP: 83 C/4

ACCESS: Access will either be from Mica or from the Sullivan River Forest Service Road. This will largely depend on whether the road up the Sullivan River Road is open this year.

COST: It will cost approximately $500/person to pay for the helicopter, breakfast and dinner for 10 days, a cook and miscellaneous supplies. The deposit is $50 payable when you register.

NOTE: Participants should be prepared to help with some part of the organization/preparation of the camp.

FULL PAYMENT DUE JUNE 30.

CANCELLATIONS: Deposits are non-refundable. The balance is refundable until June 30, after which time the total fee is forfeited unless a suitable replacement is found. Organizers will assist in finding a replacement, but the responsibility for doing so rests with the member.

AGE RESTRICTIONS: Minimum age is 15 years. Members 15 to 18 years must be accompanied by a parent or appointed guardian.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call Larry Smith at 359-7965 (home) or Kim Kratky (352-3895), LRSMITH@MFOR01.FOR.GOV.BC.CA. Information on equipment, participants, meeting time, etc., will be sent out later, along with a waiver to be signed.

.....

1997 CLIMBING CAMP APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ _____Age (if 15 to 18)____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail address_____ _____

Send with $50 deposit (payable to Kootenay Mountaineering Club) to:
Larry Smith, RR 1; S- 5; C- 6, Slocan Park BC, V0G 2E0

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1997

Next deadline: June 30

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

Classification of Trips (APPROXIMATE)
NOTE: The 'average' trip is rated C-3
Physical: A-easy B-fair C-average D-strenuous E-very strenuous
Technical: 1-hike 2-scramble 3-scramble, perhaps with some exposure 4-climb 5-climb, continual belays

Note also that there is still lots of snow up there so trips are usually a bit harder than in a normal year and good waterproof boots are essential.

June 7 (Sat): Sproule Creek A-1 Al Fedoruk (354-4678)

June 8 (Sun): Baldy Mtn C-3 Mary Woodward (825-4491)

June 14 (Sat): Mt Abercrombie B-1 Mary Baker (368-5530)

June 15 (Sun): Mt Cornfield B-3 Anna Thyer (352-5265)

June 18 (Wed): Titei Mtn C-3 Kim Kratky (352-3895)

June 21 (Sat): Red Mtn (Bonnington Range) B-2 Lisa Macgregor (354-4962)

June 22 (Sun): Trail work on the K&S Railway grade Mark Hamilton (352-5824)

June 22 (Sun): Dominion Mtn C-3 Mary Woodward (825-4491)

June 24 (Tues): Directors' meeting 7:30 at Leon Arishenkoff's, 2653 - 4th Ave, Castlegar (365-7421)

June 25 (Wed): Arlington Pk C-3 Ted Ibrahim (825-0085)

June 28 (Sat): Fletcher Lake A-1 Bob Hawes (428-5633)

June 28&29: New Denver Glacier (camp across lake) D-2 David Cunningham (352-7434)

July 1 (Tue): Mt Roberts (Flag Trip) B-2 suggest Anja Logodi (362-7247)

July 2 (Wed): Idaho L/O via the Wakefield Trail B-1 Suzanne Blewett (358-2427)

July 6 (Sun): Midgard Pk C-3 Roland Perrin (352-5480)

July 9 (Wed): Old Tom Mtn C-3 Ray Neumar (352-7042)

July 12 (Sat): Mephistopheles D-3 David Cunningham (352-7434)

July 13 (Sun): Artist Point Mtn C-3 (exploratory) David Shadbolt (352-0112)

July 13 (Sun): Beatrice Lake (via boat) B-1 Joan Grodzki (825-0072)

July 16 (Wed): Outlook Mtn C-3 Kristyn McIntosh (352-5496)

July 20 (Sun): Trail clearing, location to be announced. Mark Hamilton (352-5824)

August 10: McKean Lakes B-1 / Woden Pk C-3 Andre Zimmermann 352-3283. **Note** that phone number in schedule is wrong.

0707 S. Slocan $15 ⅓ 12.

0730 Safeway



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

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EDITORIAL POLICY

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From the Editor...

Note that there was no "May" issue, hence this **is** number 4 for the year. There will be one more issue before the summer which will come out in the first half of July, so if you have anything that should go in before September, get it to me in the next three weeks or so.

Apologies to those that got their last issue late; the Post Office got picky about my folding and rejected the fat envelopes - this is a **highly** technical job!!

Carpooling

Some of our trips require considerable driving. It is suggested that both leaders and participants strongly encourage carpooling. Leaders, tell callers of other participants in the same area. Participants, when you are calling the leader, ask if there is anyone who may want a ride. Riders, don't forget your obligation to contribute to the cost.

Trail Work

The club each year tries to work on some of the access routes that we like to use. Members are encouraged to contact Mark Hamilton (352-5824) and to come out and help. The sessions scheduled for this summer are:

June 22 - K&S Railway
July 20 - location TBA
August 16 - location TBA
Sept 27 - Steed Hut or Grassy Hut

Bear Spray

The following information came in via e-mail; take note. First from Lisa McGregor at Environment BC...

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has recalled a bear repellant product called PRED-IT (PCP REG. NO. 23686). The label claims the active ingredient is 1%, but tests have found it to be 0.19 - 0.35%.

Staff at Environment have been told it may only make the bear angry and do not depend on it to repel a bear. I purchased this product from Snowpack, so there may be other people with the spray!

And a response from Kris & Dave McIntosh at Snowpack...

I checked out the bear spray problem. Phoned the manufacturer of "Pred-It" bear spray; they are dealing with the issue directly. Please contact the 1-800 number on the canis-

ter. They have told us they will be replacing the old spray with a new 1997 product that has been tested by different measures and is more accurate with their labelled ingredients. If anyone has problems with the manufacturer, contact the store the bear spray was originally purchased from.

Mountaineering School

This year's school has a full complement of 20 students and is going very well. Some of the harnesses and ropes have been replaced, and the school has its usual complement of enthusiastic volunteer instructors..

Input on Backcountry Application

Tamarack Alpine Adventures has applied for use of 21000 acres on Powder Creek (Kaslo/Mt. Loki) for a lodge and backcountry ski business and interested members are invited to comment. Their letter to the KMC states:

> We chose this site...because of the beauty of the surrounding area, the variety of the ski terrain, the lack of other winter recreators in the area, and the close proximity to a helicopter base....The types of customers the lodge would attract would be non-mechanized backcountry recreators...Guests would be flown in to the 15-person lodge once a week (this would involve five return flights)....

The company can be reached by phone (226-7481), fax (226-7373), e-mail (gdiks@netidea.com), or Box 832, Nelson V1L 5S9.

LAND ACT

In the Nelson Land Recording District and situated in the vicinity of Powder Creek, east of Kootenay Lake.

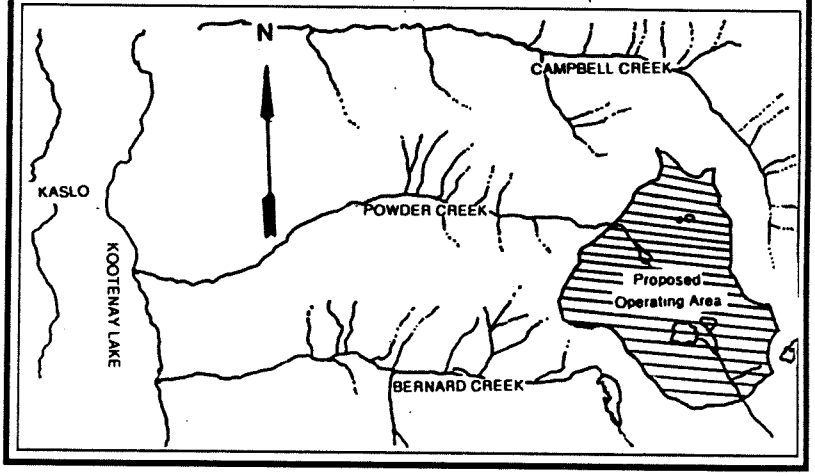
TAKE NOTICE THAT TAMARACK ALPINE ADVENTURES of Nelson, BC has applied for authorization to conduct a ski-touring and accommodation business on Crown land, under the Commercial Backcountry Recreation Policy of the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks as depicted on the sketch below. The business will **not** have exclusive access to Crown land or affect public or commercial access to Crown land.

A copy of the detailed proposal may be viewed at the Government Agent's office in Kaslo.

Written comments concerning this application may be directed to the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, 828A Baker Street, Cranbrook, BC V1C 1A2 (File No. 4403165 and 4403166).

Any responses to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record.

Your written comments will form part of the information base which will be used during the decision-making process. **Please note:** due to staffing constraints, the Ministry is unable to provide individual responses to letters or phone calls received.



Topographic Mapping

The federal Department of Natural Resources is proposing to "simplify" topographic maps by having one symbol stand for several features (flooded areas, swamps, muskeg, and wetlands would be the same), removing some entirely (no more cliffs), and deleting trails unless they were part of larger continuous trails (no marked portages), among other changes. If you wish information or want to comment, write to Mark Covey, Director General, Natural Resources Canada, Mapping Services Branch, 615 Booth St, Ottawa K1A 0E9

Spring Banquet

-Joanne Baldassi

Fifty-one people enjoyed the annual Spring Potluck dinner on April 25. It was a pleasure to meet many new members as well as visit old friends. As usual, the food was excellent. There always seem to be lots of main dishes and just the right number of desserts and salads.

After dinner, Laurie Charlton showed slides from the past ten years of hiking camps. It was fun to see places we've hiked in the past - or would like to hike in the future! Tough to identify all the participants in the "class" photos, though.

Thanks to everyone who made the evening a success - the cooks, the cleanup crew, the table and chair movers, Laurie and his slides, and everyone who attended. One of the attendees has been haunted ever since by the memory of the fruit squares. He wishes to remain anonymous (how many did you eat?), and was hoping the cook would send the recipe to the newsletter!

Change of Address

Rod Beuprie and Liz Stanich
35 Strathcona Drive
Bellevue, Ontario

Don Hagen (250) 368-5241
3151 Iris Crescent
Trail V1R 2Y6

Ann Sutherns (604) 299-8150
204 - 1315 Madison Ave
Burnaby V5C 4Y6

Jane Steed's Birthday

"You are all invited to my birthday on Dominion Day, July 1! I thought 65 was what happened to OTHER people. Come by boat, bike, or car. Potluck, Fireworks! Beer! RSVP and please bring your own utensils.

ADVERTISING!

VALHALLA MOUNTAIN TOURING LTD.

The company runs fully guided and catered tours in the mountains just north of Valhalla Park and also rents out its cabin on Ruby Creek at $30 per person per day. The cabin can be used as a base for a variety of hikes into the surrounding alpine areas. Anyone wanting information can contact Dale Caton at (250) 358-7905 (phone/fax) or RR#1, Box 43, New Denver V0G 1S0.

Alpine Routes

This company, run by Robson Gmoser, son of a long-time member, operates guided and catered multiday backpacking trips in the Rocky Mountains. They can be contacted at (403) 209-2589 (phone/fax), e-mail: alproute@cadvision.com, on the web at http://www.cadvision.com/alproute, or Upper 1531 - 16 Ave SW, Calgary T3C 0Z9.

FOR SALE

1982 VW Westfalia, yellow, new air cooled 2 litre engine, propane furnace, good stereo, California Car - $7000 Call Carl Johnson 534-4075 after 5 pm

TRIP REPORTS

Ruby Creek

February 1-2, 1997 David Horner

13 of us assembled at 6:00 am (the Thiessen/Perrin mandatory start time) Saturday morning. We drove to approximately 9 km. on the Shannon Creek Forest Service road. There we were met by Dale Caton of Valhalla Mountain Touring and his 12 passenger snow cat. A short ride took us to his Ruby Creek cabin. Skis on shortly after 10:00 am, we proceeded up Sapphire Ridge. South facing slopes were suncrusted and alpine areas wind blasted. After some discussion we descended into Ruby Basin and skied the treed North facing slopes of Ruby Mountain. 4:00 p.m. saw us arrive at the cabin. Saunas, appetizers, refreshments and an exceptional multi-course pot luck followed. (Thanks to Roland, our culinary organizer.) Roland provided the Sunday alarm function. After a hot breakfast and Taster's Choice coffee (the contributor of which shall remain anonymous), we proceeded to the Shannon Lake area. We had some sunny breaks and views were great. We skied this area for the day and proceeded out via a run affectionately known as 'Sh_t For Brains' (previously named in honour of one of our trip participants) to where our vehicles were parked. Dale met us there with our overnight gear and we headed home. Ski conditions were generally good but a little on the tricky side. A good time was had by all. Basically this was a Dave and Peter trip. We were: Dave Grant, Jeremy Grant, Dave Toews, Dave Mitchell, Dave Horner (Trip Organizer), Peter Jordan, Peter Tchir, Peter McIver, Roland Perrin, Fred Thiessen, Vivien Bowers (who added an element of civility to the trip), Sandy Moe, Jim Wood.

Mount Brennan

April 12, 1997 David Horner

Six brave souls attempted the annual KMC "Gorilla Grunt" up Mount Brennan. For the uninitiated this is a 1830 metre (6000 foot) climb on skis to then highest peak in this immediate area. We departed Nelson at 5:00 am (6:00 am Mountain Time sounds more humane) and were on skis at approximately 6:45. Conditions were perfect with blue skies and warm temperatures prevailing. The first of then party reached the summit in about 5 hours with the balance following over the next hour. A leisurely ski down saw us back at our vehicles in about 8 hours total. A very strenuous outing but well worth the effort. The trip day had been changed from Sunday to Saturday due to forecast perfect conditions on Saturday and deteriorating weather Sunday. This proved to be the case. Several who had made the trip in other years said the conditions were the best they had encountered. If you are interested in a particular trip please call prior to the night before. A few potential participants called after the trip had happened and were disappointed. We were Roland Perrin, Fred Thiessen, Peter Tchir, Ken Holmes (visiting from Peru), Jeff Roberts (visiting from Calgary) and David Horner (organizer).

Columbia River Overlook

April 20, 1997 Hazel Kirkwood

In spite of torrential rain during the night before and still continuing during our meeting time of 10:00 at the Lion's Head, seven hardy souls decided to brave the wetness and go on the hike as planned. We were HansPeter Korn, Darrin Grund, Diane Lloyd, Robert Darrah, Jill Watson, Anja Logodi, and Hazel Kirkwood. By the time we reached our lunch destination high above Robson the rain had stopped, so we changed into dry clothing and enjoyed the view. After lunch, Darrin and Rob decided to make their way down from the top to the road far below, while the rest of us continued on the hike, taking a circuitous route back to the cars.

The sun came out during our return trip and some of us stripped down to sleeveless T-shirts. Almost at the end of our hike we had to cross a creek which had risen to a narrow, raging torrent. One hiker slipped off a mid-stream rock into the deep water and was quickly grabbed by Hans before she was swept downstream. After getting into dry clothes again, she realized her glasses were missing and commented, "I came back blind with no clothes and can't remember what happened, so I must have had a good time." A frantic search

of all her gear ensued, then we hiked back a ways to search the last area we had rested at. No luck. (They probably came off in the creek and are now being worn by some fish in the Columbia River.) We were back at the Lion's Head around 4:30.

Evans Creek

May 4, 1997 Anja Logodi

By this time, after so many weeks of rain, a new subcategory of KMC'ers had formed. Apart from the climbers, the hikers, we now had a group that we could safely call "those who would not stay home just because it was raining."

By the way it did not rain all day. We actually took a lot of our clothes off on the homeward stretch. The glacier lilies were out in abundance. Other flowers were just starting to come out and were sporadic.

There were twelve of us although there could have been a lot more. You see, the Nelson contingent, by this time, definitely did not belong to the new category of weather proof hikers!

Keystone Mtn (5,550')

May 14,1997 Kim Kratky

This trip was supposed to go to Mt. Cody in the northern Kokanee Group, but road access and snow conditions being what they were this year, the trip leader opted for something do-able. Keystone Mountain is a very minor-league peak on the west side of Highway #6 between Salmo and Ymir.

Our party met at 8:45 near the Porcupine Wood Products mill on Boulder Mill Creek about 35km south of Nelson. We then drove south on the highway across Boulder Mill Creek and took the first faint turning to the right just past the creek. About 700m of driving led to a muddy logged-over area where we parked. Starting about 9:00, we followed the obvious road as it serpentined up the forested north side of Keystone. After about 50 minutes, we took a sharp right spur that led us to a lower bump north of Keystone. Realizing our error, we made our way up through timber to the dread summit by 12:45 (2 3/4 hr travel time; 1 hr of rest time). We returned by descending southeast and then east until we picked up our original road among a myriad of skid trails (descent time 1 1/4 hr). Travel was entirely on snow except for the road.

This is a trip you want to make only (on foot, at least) in the early part of the season when you have lots of snow to walk on. Otherwise, it would be an unpleasant bushwhack. Mountain bikers, note that Keystone Mtn. road offers exhilarating killer grades from 2300ft at the highway up to a 4800ft pass that drops into -I think- the Erie Creek valley. Take a saw for the deadfalls.

On the trip: Bob Dean, Robin Lidstone, Ezra and John Rowell, Kim Kratky (co-ordinator). Map: Salmo 82F/3 1:50,000.

Yellow Pine Trail

May 14, 1997 Jill Watson

On May 14 seven of us set out on the Yellow Pine Trail on a beautiful sunny day. This trail can do for beginners and families as well as those wanting a bigger workout and hike. Since all seven of us had done some hiking, our amble soon became a ramble that turned into interesting scrambles. Most big scrambles were rewarded with lovely views along the Columbia River and the mountains west of it. On the hike were Jill Watson, Ted Ibrahim, HP Korn, Bev Gordon, Bob Dean, Ray Neumar, and Doug Bennett.

Fry Creek Canyon

May 17, 1997 Mary Woodward

Which way did they go?
How many of them were there?
How fast were they going?
I MUST find them
I am their LEADER!

Keeping this in mind, eighteen of us hiked up Fry Creek Canyon. In spite of ominous black clouds when we met in Kaslo, the bad weather went right on down the lake as we travelled towards Johnson's Landing. Spring flowers on one side of the trail and roaring water on the other side. I hope all enjoyed the day as much as I did.

... MORE NEXT MONTH ...

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

JULY 1997

Next deadline: September 1

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

Classification of Trips (APPROXIMATE)
NOTE: The 'average' trip is rated C-3
Physical: A-easy B-fair C-average D-strenuous E-very strenuous
Technical: 1-hike 2-scramble 3-scramble, perhaps with some exposure 4-climb 5-climb, continual belays

July 20 (Sun): Trail clearing, K&S Railway G-1. Mark Hamilton (352-5824)

July 23 (Wed): Haystack Pk (Purcells) C-3 Ray Neumar (352-7042)

July 26: (Start of First Camp)

July 26 (Sat): Mt Akokli C-4 Kevin Forsyth (352-3602)

July 26 (Sat): Idaho L\O (Flower Trip) A-1 Pat Thomson (362-7649)

July 26 - Aug 4: Climbing Camp, Clemenceau Icefield Larry Smith (359-3895)

July 27: Ymir Mtn C-3 Reid Henderson (352-2362)

July 30 (Wed): Hampshire Mtn C-3 Howie Ridge (354-4909)

Aug 2 (Sat): Mt Stanley C-3 Ted Ibrahim (825-0085)

Aug 3: Monica Meadows B-1 / Glacier Dome C-3 Al Fedoruk (354-4678)

Aug 6 (Wed): Wolf Peak C-3 Norman Thyer (352-5265)

Aug 9 (Sat): Artist Point Mtn C-3 (exploratory) David Shadbolt (352-0112) **Note:** this is a postponement from July 13.

Aug 10: McKean Lakes B-1 / Woden Pk C-3 Andre Zimmermann (352-3283)

Aug 13 (Wed): Mulvey Overlook via Gimli Trail B-2 Wendy Hurst (399-4157)

Aug 16: (End of Third Camp)

Aug 16-? (3 or 4 days): Mt Assiniboine D-4 David Shadbolt (352-0112)

Aug 16 (Sat): Woodbury Hut B-1 Kathy Hendren (354-4219)

Aug 16&17: Mt. Bor C-3 (car camp?) Peter Wood (359-7107)

Aug 17: Gwillam Lakes B-1. No leader/ad hoc. **Note** that this is a change in location (and leader)

Aug 20 (Wed): Mt Apple C-3 Dave Adams (359-8112)

Aug 23&24: Mt Bor shifted to previous week

Aug 23 (Sat): Gwillim Lakes B-1 Rita Wege (354-1685) Note: Lucifer Peak dropped as objective.

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

* Trails and Cabins Update

* Membership List



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Peter Macek
Site 7, Comp 10, RR#1
Slocan Park, BC V0G 2E0
phone and fax: 226-7576
e-mail: pmacek@selkirk.bc.ca

MEMBERSHIP

The club dues are:

Individual	$20.00
Couple/family	$25.00
Junior	$10.00

Send to: RR#1, S-13, C-19, Nelson, BC V1L 4P5

SUBMISSIONS

I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip leaders should submit their writeups as soon after their trips as possible. Articles can be submitted in most written and electronic forms.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Suitability for publication is at the editor's discretion. Articles may be edited for clarity or for length.

From the Editor...

Lots more I wanted to put into this issue, but because of the membership list I'm out of space.

The next issue will come out mid-September and will probably mainly be trip reports, so please make sure if you are a trip leader that you send one in.

Have a good summer!

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

continued

Aug 24: Lemon Creek Trail trial clearing G-1. Mark Hamilton (352-5824)

Aug 24: Jumbo Pass B-1 Kevin Forsyth (352-3602) Note: this is a change of date.

Aug 27 (Wed): Texas Pk C-3 Bob Dean (359-7759)

Aug 30&31: Blockhead D-3 Peter Tchir (359-7440)

Aug 31: Jumbo Pass **Note: moved to Aug 24.**

Aug 31: Mount Ludlow C-3 Norman Thyer (352-5265) **Note:** previously scheduled on Aug 17..

Sept 3 (Wed): Mt Fisher C-3 (Cranbrook) Rick Forget 489-4175 (354-4052)

Sept 6 (Sat): Slocan Chief Cabin C-1 Christine Sutherland (352-7755)

Sept 6&7: Chimney Rock B-5 Fred Thiessen (352-6140)

Sept 7: Silver Spray B-1 / Mt McQuarrie C-3 Reid Henderson (352-2362)

Safeway 0700
S. Slocan 0730

Sept 10 (Wed): Old Glory B-1 Roy Hopland (362-7278)

Sept 13 (Sat): Mt Monica D-4 Hamish Mutch (428-2389)

Sept 14: McBeth Ice Field traverse D-3 Armin Hasenkox (354-4555)

Sept 14: Long Mountain C-3 Mike Brewster (352-5666)

Siwash Rover Cr. 0815

Sept 17 (Wed): Qua Pk C-3 Dave Adams 9359-8112)

Sept 20&21: Mt Fay (Silver Cup Ridge) C-3 Fred Thiessen (352-6140)

Sept 21: Pontiac Pk C-2 Ron Perrier (362-5289)

Sept 24 (Wed): Mt Yuill C-3 Mary Woodward (825-4491)

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

concluded

Sept 27 (Sat): Steed Hut or Grassy Hut work party. Mark Hamilton (352-5824)

Sept 27 (Sat): Frog Pk C-3 Dave Mitchell (354-4052)

Sept 28: Blue Grouse Basin B-1 / Mt Virgil C-3 Peter Tchir (359-7440)

Important Note Trip schedule changes are announced weekly by Bob Dean via e-mail. Anyone who has an e-mail address and has not yet done so is encouraged to contact Bob at bdean@kootcom.kootenay.net

In Memory of Hamish Martin

For those who haven't already heard, we had a very sad accident up on the MacBeth Icefield on June 29, 1997 where Hamish was killed.

There were six of us, Hamish Martin, Max Barkus, Nancy Selwood, Eric Miller, Scott Smith, and Pete Bullock, spending the weekend up on the icefield. We were on our way to Mt. MacBeth and had made it to the north ridge where we were stopping for a rest and a look at the view.

Hamish was looking around and ventured to the edge looking out toward Monica Meadows, when the snow collapsed and he dropped down the cliff.

The memorial was held in the Martins' garden July 5 where nearly 200 people gathered to share stories and express the loss of such a great friend. Hamish is survived by his parents John and Libby Martin, sister Fiona, and partner Carolyn.

There has been a trust fund set up in his name at the Rossland Credit Union for anyone interested in donating money to be used in some outdoor project.

You will be sadly missed my friend, but never forgotten.

love, Pete Bullock

IDEAS FOR 1997 CABIN AND TRAIL WORK

Mark Hamilton

As last year was a warm up year for me as the director of cabins and trails, I am hoping the coming season will be filled with many days of voluntary support. This support will have a direct result in the kind of experience we will have in the backcountry.If there is anyone in this club that enjoys walking or thrashing around on trails that are over grown with windfalls and blown out bridges (not to mention mud pits and trail erosion), I commend you on your energy and presumable large vocabulary of hostile words for those nasty situations. Cabins with no wood and in need of repair may also cause one to curse. Often, in these kinds of situations one tends to blame someone else for the lack of maintenance. No, it's not always the snowmobilers that burn all the wood and leave all the garbage. Granted, our voluntary maintained cabins have received hard use from our friends on machines,(both in the summer and winter). But more to the point is that these cabins and trails are being used more and more...by everyone. If this is not a good reason to put more energy into our volunteer projects then what is? As a club, we need to put more effort into maintaining these areas and show that we are concerned about issues of access and limited impact on our fragile environment.

In this coming season I would like to concentrate on the maintenance of our four cabins. In order of existence they are the Huckleberry Hut, Grassy Hut, Copper Hut, and the Steed Hut. Before I continue I would like to thank George Apel in building and maintaining these cabins in order to provide our club and other skiers and hikers with a remarkable hut to hut traverse. In talking to Dave Fitchett of the Arrow Lake Forest District, he has expressed the fact that all of the cabins should be brought up to the CSA code in terms of the stoves and chimney pipes. This will include new stoves and proper clearances in relation to stove location and chimney flashing. The idea of replacing some of our stoves with ones that have small fireboxes seems to be the most efficient one. As the huts we're dealing with are not very large a small but hot fire is all that is needed to comfortably warm the hut. Although acquiring the stoves, pipes, flashing and wood is not a major deal, getting them to the cabins is a

more costly issue. The two ways to make our job easier are: acquiring a grant from Forest Renewal B.C. and lots of volunteer work parties. The grant from F.R.B.C. is in the process of being written up and submitted. This money, if acquired, will be used for buying building materials, stoves,appropriate flashing, and most of all helicopter time to supply these cabins with the materials and lots of wood. If we can get this far with the money, I hope to see all you keeners out there helping out with our cabins so they can be in great shape for the next 5 years. You may have concerns about the fact that if we supply these cabins with new stoves and a new wood supply won't the snowmobilers be in there in more numbers. I strongly believe that with proper signs endorsed by our club and the local snowmobile clubs a certain respect will be seen in each other. This should allow both clubs to better find out where each other goes and maybe make some sacrifices. I also feel that we should fly logs up there and store them off the ground close to the cabin. This would allow us the option to only cut a winters worth of wood every fall. In theory with the new stoves, smaller fireboxes, and efficient venting, our cabins and hard work will last a long time.

With the snow quickly going from the high country there are a few plans I wish to share with you for the coming season. First, I am going to investigate the small stove idea and try to get a lead on a good quality one. This should get me some prices and feasibility answers. I will be planning some work parties in the fall and hope that anyone who has constructive "criticism" shall feel free to attend most of them. Thanks. These work parties will include general clean up and minor carpentry work to the interiors and exteriors where needed. After all is said and done we must still remember that these are our cabins to maintain and if we can do a little work every season these cabins will last forever and have continual use year round by everyone.

In terms of trail work and trail building the 1997 year has already begun and as usual the amount of people not phoning is amazing. To think that the phone could not ring that much... We are currently building a section of trail on the Kaslo–Sandon Railway. This is an extension of a trail that the late John Carter built about three years ago. Our work on the trail will be in memory of John and all the work that he put into the K.M.C., and all the volunteer days doing trail work. This section is about 700 meters long and it follows the old rail grade. What we as a club would like to do is grub out the uneven terrain and make a flat trail bed that will make walking and riding easy. In terms of classification all of the trail clearing days can be as physical as you want. They are the only trips offered by the club that have a rating of G–1. This is the unofficial rating for all you hardcore folks that want that killer workout. If you dream of having wrists and forearms like Charles Atlas you better phone and reserve a spot on the next G–1.This past Sunday was going to be the first but was cancelled due to the bad weather conditions. The next sessions scheduled are as follows:

July 13 – G–1 : K&S Railway
July 20 – G–1 : K&S Railway
August 24 – G–1 : Lemon Creek Trail
Sept 27 – Steed Hut or Grassy Hut

If any one has any concerns, questions, or comments please do not hesitate to phone me at (250)–352–5824. Director of Cabins and Trails – Mark Hamilton.

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TITEI MTN./MT. HEYLAND (both 8,350')

For the benefit of all those who didn't ask, Titei is located east of Fishermaiden Lake, north of Blue Grouse Basin, and just outside the boundary of Kokanee Glacier Park. Mike Brewster, who's been there, tells me it's pronounced "tie tay" (accent on first syllable). The trip itself, scheduled for Wednesday, June 18th, was of course cancelled because of bad weather, but the leader was able to make some explorations in the area.

Access is usually via Silverton and Silverton Creek. When I did a reconnaissance on the preceding Monday, I found the road blocked at about km 12.5 near an old mine site. Dave Fitchett of MoF says his crews are scheduled to clear the blockage early this summer. As the weather wasn't bad, I took the opportunity to scramble Mt. Heyland (8,350') from the west. The best (use that word guardedly) approach is to walk the road to the cutblock just beyond the mine and make for the steep west ridge leading to Heyland's west face. It's an easy scramble once you're in the alpine, but not a trip you want to do more than once. Three hours to the summit. Character-building bushwhacking on steep slopes.
Larry Smith <Larry.Smith@gems1.gov.bc.ca>

ROAD ACCESS AS OF EARLY JULY

Kim Kratky

Sheep Creek road (south of Salmo): driveable to km. 17, beyond Panther Lake trail; a slide at km. 6 requires regular ploughing; another slide just beyond km. 14 (Curtis Lake turnoff) is negotiable by 4WD high-clearance vehicles.

Curtis Lake road: may still be blocked by deadfalls at km 1.

Waldie Lake road (accessed from Sheep Creek road): MoF say there is a bridge out farther up.

Keen Creek road: in late June, blocked by deadfalls around km. 17; take your chainsaw.

Ben Hur Creek road: in good shape to 5,000'; turn left off Keen Creek road at km. 8; go straight at 200 m; then go right at 1.6 km. and follow this mainline to its end in a recent cutblock 4 km. from Keen Creek; Fred Thiessen and I used this access on June 26th to climb Mt. Chipman (8,405') in the remote Caribou Ridge area of Kokanee Glacier Park; a strenuous approach over rugged terrain offering fairly challenging bushwhacking, this is a satisfactory, not "cinchy," route to the alpine. Carlyle Creek/Flint Lakes road: turn right off Keen Creek road at km. 6.9; bridge is driveable.

Long Creek road: turn right off Keen Creek road at km. 12.3; although the bridge over Keen Creek may be negotiable for hikers later in year, it's too smashed up to drive over; too bad, since this road gives excellent access to south side of Mt. Carlyle and east side of Mt. Heyland.

Salmo Area Roads

Doug Sly

I have heard that the bridge over Sheep Creek leading up to Waldie (Wolf) Lake in back of Salmo is washed out and no plans to replace and have also heard that the Erie Creek road between Salmo and Fruitvale is blocked with mud just past the last houses and so the access to Marble Lake and the cabin that George and others just built is gone, at least from that side in summer.

Can anyone confirm how permanent these closures are? A real shame and a loss at least for me if either of these roads are gone. dsly@netidea.com

Kokanee Glacier Park Website

Armin Hasenkox

Kokanee Glacier Mountaineering Inc. administers the winter program in Kokanee Glacier Park. They have recently put up a web site with information regarding the park and booking of the Slocan Chief and Silver Spray cabins for the winter season. I thought this site might be of interest to KMC members who have Internet access.
The URL for the site is: http://www.kokanee-glacier.com

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Change of Address

Don and Heather Lyon
this summer they will be in New Denver
General Delivery V0G 1S0
110 Josephine St, phone 358-7225

their new permanent address is:
714 Mill Street
Nelson V1L 4S5
phone (starting in Sept) 505-2050

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Historical Note

On a recent trip to Grey's Peak in Kokanee Park, Kendall Mint Cake was served at the summit. Only a few of the participants knew where this tradition came from. In an effort to preserve one of mountaineering's traditions, this is a reprint from the mint cake package:

Romney's Kendall Mint Cake was carried to the summit of MOUNT EVEREST by

Sir Edmund Hillary and Sirdar Tensing in the 29th of May 1953. "We sat on the snow and looked at the country far below us...we nibbled Kendall Mint Cake." A member of the successful Everest Expedition wrote, "...It was easily the most popular item on our high altitude ration - our only criticism was that we did not have enough of it."

(and that proves that Dave Mitchell does read package labels!)

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Plodders and Sprinters

Norman Thyer

Many KMC members are "sprinters". At the beginning of a trip, they set out at full speed. However, I am a "plodder". I start out at a much slower speed and usually lag behind the main group, especially on uphill stretches. But when I catch up with them later, I can keep up with them too, and can continue for the rest of the day at a faster pace than when I started.

Are there any other "plodders" in the KMC? If you are one, and would like to go on hikes, scrambles or easy climbs at the "plodder's" pace, I invite you to get in touch with me.

An experienced party starts slowly - more slowly, usually, than less expert climbers. It knows that pace to be good must be effortless, and must become mechanical, and that the muscles must be given time to get warm and work up to their automatic rhythm. Once this rhythm is attained it will, for the sake of good progress, avoid alike both hurrying and frequent halting. To hurry will interfere with the bodily functions, and react upon heart and lungs and will; and to halt will disturb and chill the muscles. It will aim at continuous steady going, and save its seconds and minutes over ground of easy movement, ready to spend time freely again so as to economize effort on more difficult passages.

- Geoffrey Winthrop Young, "Mountain Craft", Fifth edition, 1946, pp63-64

It is better he should be thought to be getting old or lazy than that the party should be rushed inopportunely.

- Ibid, p32

There is no pleasure in being left behind; it provokes a tired man and generally makes him obstinately slower.

- Ibid, p34

Ibid was the brother of the Latin poet Ovid, and is the most widely quoted author in the whole of literature.

Norman Thyer (352-5265) nthyer@web.net

BC Forest Service Brochures

Fred Thiessen

The BCFS has just redone its brochures for the area, and there are new brochures of:

Boundary
Kootenay Lake/Arrow
Cranbrook
Invermere

a phone call or drop in to the local office can get you a copy.and.they are the only maps that show the location of the new parks.

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TRIP REPORT

Sproule Creek

June 7, 1997 Al Fedoruk

The group started up the trail from the end of Sproule Creek Road at 9:30. We hiked up Sproule Creek until the trail deteriorated into a confusion of brush and deer trails (about 6km). Saturday was one of the first sunny and warm days that we have had for a while and we able to have a pleasant lunch in the meadow near the end of the trail. For flora and fauna there was a good showing of trilliums, yellow violets and on our return trip a black bear and her spring cub crossed the trail ahead of us. Twelve of us made the trip.

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Sorry, that's it for this issue. There are lots more reports that I will put into September's issue, so keep them coming!

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1997 **Next deadline: October 1**

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Sept 21: Pontiac Pk C-2 Ron Perrier (362-5289)

Sept 24 (Wed): Mt Yuill C-3 Mary Woodward (825-4491)

Sept 27 (Sat): Steed Hut work party. Mark Hamilton (352-5824). Note that this will also be a dedication of the hut, so come out and participate.

Sept 27 (Sat): Frog Pk C-3 Dave Mitchell (354-4052)

Sept 28: Blue Grouse Basin B-1 / Mt Virgil C-3 Peter Tchir (359-7440)

Oct 1 (Wed): Sapphire Lakes C-2 Colleen Helman (825-9571)

Oct 4 (Sat): Plaid Lake B-1 Evan McKenzie (352-7801)

Oct 5: Deception Creek (Meadow Creek area) B-2 Mike Brewster (352-5666)

Oct 11 (Sat): Tipi Camp A-1 Jane Steed (352-2196)

Oct 12: Gwillim Cr (exploratory) A-1 ? Dave Adams (359-8112)

Oct 14: Directors' meeting, Leon Arishenkoff (365-7421)

Oct 17: Hiking Camp slide show, Robson Hall 7:00. Details on next page.

Oct 19: Copper Mt B-1 Anna Thyer (352-5265)

Oct 26: Pulpit Rock B-2 ~~Colleen Driscoll~~ AL FEDORUK ~~(354-4819)~~ 354 4678

Nov 7: Annual General Meeting, Details on next page.

Nov 7-9: Banff Festival of Mountain Films, Details on next page.

Important Note Trip schedule changes are announced weekly via Bob Dean by e-mail. Anyone who has an e-mail address and has not yet done so is encouraged to contact Bob at bdean@kootcom.kootenay.net

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

* Many trip reports
* Lots of notices
* No cartoons



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Peter Macek
Site 7, Comp 10, RR#1
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From the Editor...

It seems as if the summer vanished much too quickly, but it looks from all the notices as if the fall is already in full swing.

The next issue will be out in less than a month if there are any resolutions for the AGM, as they need two weeks' notice. Half of the directors' positions are up for election, so think about running for one of them!

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be on Friday, November 7 at Trapper John's in Salmo. Bar opens at 6:00 and dinner will be at 6:30. Details will appear in the next issue.

Hiking Camps Slide Show

The slide show will be at Robson Hall on October 17 at 7:00. Peple planning to bring slides are asked to let Joanne Baldassi (362-9461) know ahead of time. All are welcome to come; the consensus seems to be that the location was spectacular and that they were very enjoyable camps. Come to the show and see for yourself!

Karabiner

This year's Karabiner is expected to be ready for distribution at the AGM. Lots of good articles and apparently the photo quality is excellent.

Next year's issue is being worked on, so get your articles ready..Joan Grodzki (825-0072) is keen to get most of the submissions in any electronic form, as typing all the material has been a huge job. She will accept typewritten or faxed articles (by arrangement), but discourages handwritten compositions, please.

Topographic Maps

The Slocan, Trail, Kasio, and Creston 1:100 000 maps have now been issued and are available.

Banff Festival of Mountain Films

If you want to see and live it all, the festival this year will be November 7-9, with guest speaker Chris Bonnington. Tickets at 1-800-298-1229 or www.banffcentre.ab.ca/CMC/

Rigging for Rescue

The course calendar is out. Anyone interested in the week-long, $700 courses starting in April, call (250) 342-6042 or mauthner@rockies.net.

Rivers' Day

The Rivers' Day this year is Sept 28. The Canoe Club is having a Slocan River trip to celebrate and AGM on Sept 21. Contact Peter Macek at 226-7576.

Kokanee Glacier Park

The winter use policy and booking rules for this year have come out. The deadline for entering the lottery is October 6 (by courier in the event of a strike). Details at (250) 354-4092 or www.kokanee-glacier.com.

Cabins and Trails

There is a great deal of concern that very few members are coming out to help with the necessary trail and cabin work. A proposal to offer credit towards the membership dues to those who do work will be initiated at the AGM. What do you think? Note that there is one more work party scheduled for Sept. 27.

A request is being put together for FRBC money to help with upgrading the stoves at the cabins.

Winter Trips

The Winter Trips schedule will be in the November newsletter. Anyone wishing to suggest a trip destination or to volunteer to lead a trip should contact Peter Jordan at 352-5225. If you want to be on Peter's e-mail trip updates, contact him at pjordan@awinc.com

Bonnington Traverse

Dave Mitchell (354-4052) is planning a winter traverse of the Bonnington Range in the third week of March (school break). Anyone interested should contact him now as he wants to go up to the cabins to secure firewood and supplies before snowfall.

Members Moved and Missing

Address Correction

Janice Gilbert
RR#1, S-7, C-16
South Slocan V0G 2G0

Changes of Address

Curt Nixon
1512 Robertson Ave, Nelson B.C. V1L 1C6
cnixon@mfor01.for.gov.bc.ca

Carl Jorgensen
11417 - 79 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 0P5

Mising Persons Dept

The following people have moved without notifying the club and so their newsletters have been returned. Anyone knowing where they are, please tell Joan at 825-0072, or me at the Newsletter.

John & Linda Birrell
Betty Campbell
Tom Doal
Tim Lawson
Sasha Stout
Trudy Toews & Cedric Hanson

Lost

Pair of aviation-style Rayban sunglasses near the Haystack trailhead or along the road. Reward. Call Kevin at 352-3602

An "heirloom" Tilley hat, probably at the trailhead to Drinnon Lake. Call 352-7042

Living Landscapes Project

The Royal BC Museum is soliciting for project ideas and offering research money for projects selected. Are there any members interested in researching human or natural history projects in the Kootenays? A partial list from the Thompson-Okanagan includes: Insects-compilation of a computerized database; Kokanee salmon of the T-O, on-shore spawning behaviour; Early cattle industry; Ethnic labour

in agriculture. Anyone have some imaginative ideas? I have some literature if anyone wishes more information.

Trail Maintenance

It is said that the best way to maintain a trail is to use it. However, due to things like fallen trees, sometimes we have to do more than walk on the trail. Major maintenance may require special work-parties with chain-saws, but even on a hike, a little effort can achieve much.

On the way up to the New Denver Glacier, a blockage had caused part of Sharp Creek to flow down the trail. It took me about ten seconds to move one stick in the blockage and restore the stream to its proper course. On the way down, I flipped numerous small branches off the trail as I walked,using the point of my ice-axe. On the Gimli trail, a projecting loop of root formed a potentially dangerous "trip-trap". I removed it in a minute, using the wood-saw on my Swiss army knife.

In this way, the members of a typical-size group could do much to keep trails in good condition. - Norman Thyer

Note to Hiking Camps #1 and #2

Steve Horvath, Hamish Mutch and myself, Paul Allen, helicoptered into the Nemo Group at the beginning of first hiking camp and returned at the start of second camp. Several people asked us if we were from hiking camp, or were we using their helicopter, or was hiking camp paying for the extra flights? So I thought a short letter might help clear up any misconceptions.

1) We paid completely for our own flight time each way for a total cost of $490.00.
2) We prepaid by credit card to the helicopter company, so that it was completely separate from the hiking camp.
3) This was arranged with Laurie Charlton's knowledge in advance.
4) We flew either before or after hiking camp set times so as not to inconvenience hiking camp schedules.

This letter is meant to provide information only. Everyone was very friendly to us and hopefully we were likewise. I simply want to clarify this before any rumours start or any potential animosity is created between KMC members or groups.

We sincerely hope that everyone in the hiking camps had as good a time and weather as we did.

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TRIP REPORTS

Not Cabin Peak

May 11, 1997 David Mitchell

Ten of us met to go up Cabin Peak at the leisurely hour of 8 o'clock. We met at the Porto Rico parking area at Barrett Creek Gun Club. Since the road was more snowy than bare, we walked from the parking lot, but when we got to where Lost Creek crosses the road, there was a great consternation that we might get our feet wet so early in the hike. A mutinous decision was made against the leader and the hike went on the east side of the creek up the Lost Lake road in the direction of Commonwealth Mountain.

The rest of the hike was a stomp up the snowy road to the lake and then to the summit. You may have heard that packing a shovel is a good idea. I used my shovel on at least four occasions when some member became inextricably bound in the rocks and snow on the ridge line.

Unlike most trips of late, we couldn't complain about the weather. As usual, many participants complained that the trip was too early in the season. (It was only 22km and 1200m vertical!) We were Norman Thyer, Mary Woodward, Ray Neumar, Joe Caravello, Al Fedoruk, Katrina Bennett, Bob Dean, Helen Weiss, Jill Watson, and me.

Granite Mountain

May 18, 1997 Anja Logodi

We met in the parking lot at 9:30 am
9 KMC'ers ready to go hiking again
With the summit of Granite gleaming in the sun
We were all ready for a day of fun.

We trekked through creeks, mud and stones

Over to the Main Run with just a few groans
Then straight up the mountain until we reached snow
Put on our gaiters and started going real slow.

Bob wanted the lift line, we settled for the bowl
The snow soft for walking and good for the soul
Then up to the ridge to the microwave tower
And sat on the heli pad our lunch we did devour.

Over to Comfort and a sight did we greet
A run so smooth and paved like a street
Blue skies, Mt Roberts looming with might
We boot skied straight down shrieking with delight.

Over the bear tracks and on to the Lodge
Before we knew it, it was Bob we had to dodge
Under the deck he scurried around
In less than a minute he found close to a Pound.

The loyal six continued down road South Side
The mutineering three went back up to glide
When we met up again we had stories galore
We'd found enough stuff to open a store.

Then back to the Watsons' to sip tea on the deck
It really was a short hike but what the heck
Last weekend we'd earned our stripes
Remember Commonwealth? Oh cripes!

We were Anja, Joy, Susan, Andrew, Bob, Dave C, Dave W, Stephen, and Jill.

Pulpit Rock, Mt. Nelson

May 25, 1997 Evan McKenzie

Although the damp weather deterred a few, eight people showed up at 9:00 for the hike. We arrived at the lookout shortly after 10:00 and caught a few glimpses of Nelson through a veil of shifting clouds. As the weather wasn't getting any worse, we decided to continue on up the trail. Many attractive wildflowers were in bloom on the rocky, open slopes above Pulpit Rock. We arrived at the flagpole about 11:00 and decided to stop there because of the weather. After a quick bite and a few minutes of standing around getting chilled, we headed back down the mountain. The low-lying clouds in the Kootenay Valley provided a moody backdrop for the return trip. We took the alternative route from Pulpit Rock down to the road and were back to our vehicles by 1:00pm. We were wet mainly from sweating inside our rain gear. We were Bob, Hazel, Webb, Susan, John, Fred, Roy, and Evan.

Ymir Mountain (7867 ft)

June 8, 1997 Mary Woodward

At 9:30 am fourteen of us left the parking lot at Whitewater ski hill. We followed the footsteps of the KMC snow school party up into Ymir Bowl. Our pace slowed slightly when we left the ready-made steps and broke our own trail toward the peak. The first arrived on the peak at 11:30 and the rest of us, ready for lunch, at 12 noon. Soon we were joined by the twenty snow school participants plus a very friendly dog that didn't know that dogs aren't allowed on KMC hikes. We returned by a different route, quickly glissading, sliding, and rolling in the snow. A beautiful day to bag a peak! This trip was changed from Baldy Mountain due to road conditions up Porcupine Creek.

Sproule Creek

June 7, 1997 Al Fedoruk

The group started up the trail from the end of Sproule Creek Road at 9:30. We hiked up Sproule Creek until the trail deteriorated into a confusion of brush and deer trails (about 6km). Saturday was one of the first sunny and warm days that we have had for a while and we able to have a pleasant lunch in the meadow near the end of the trail. For flora and fauna there was a good showing of trilliums, yellow violets and on our return trip a black bear and her spring cub crossed the trail ahead of us. Twelve of us made the trip.

Grays Peak (aka Haystack)

June 15, 1997 David Cunningham

The scheduled trip was up Mt. Cornfield, but the access road was blocked by fallen trees and a mud slide. The road to Gibson's Lake was recently cleared. The group that hiked up Grays consisted of people who were interested in climbing Grays and people who had planned to climb Mt. Cornfield. In total, there were 27 people who started the hike, of whom 26 made it to the summit.

It was a beautiful clear sunny day with a cool breeze. Snow conditions were good although a little sloppy toward the bottom of the mountain in the afternoon. Due to this being an early season hike, there was snow right from Gibson's Lake to the summit. This eliminated any bushwacking and allowed us to a straight path up the mountain toward the notch between Kokanee Peak and Grays Peak. It also allowed us to walk comfortably on the glacier at the base of Grays and not worry about crevasses which were covered with large quantities of snow.

Shortly after the last person on the hike was back in the parking lot it started to rain and then we had a thunder and lightning storm. There were too many people to recount everyone's name so I will just say that it seemed everyone had a good time.

Mt Rupple (2376m)

Lat. 49°45' Long. 117°18'.

June 25, 1997 Ted Ibrahim

Four of us met at 8 am at the South Slocan junction on the first fine morning for several days. We drove 62 km up the Slocan valley to the Enterprise Creek turnoff. 12.1 km up the Enterprise Creek road we turned right, across the bridge, up the Timber Creek road and drove for 5.8 km before bearing right and driving 0.8 km and parking. At this time we thought we were going to climb Arlington Peak, but we were further up Timber Creek than we thought, as later measurements showed, the road going much farther than shown on the map (a recent copy from Forestry that was thought to be up to date). The starting elevation was about 1740 m and almost immediately we were on snow. As we climbed, the snow became softer, rather than firmer, I think because both there was a surface of fresh snow and because of more open exposure to the sun. In one soft spot, Bob broke through the snow and wrenched his knee, which bothered him on the descent. We climbed along the NE ridge to within less than 100 m of the top. However, at this stage, the softness of the snow and the many fresh avalanches, made us decide not to attempt the last section and we lunched on the rocks at the end of the ridge before we returned. We were, Kristyn McIntosh, Bob Dean, Chris Matera (a visitor staying at the Hostel) and Ted Ibrahim.

Fletcher Lake

June 28, 1997 Bob Dawes

Seven of us met at Ainsworth and drove about 1 1/4 hours to the upper Fletcher Lake trailhead. More than half the hike was on snow. We reached the viewpoint over the lake at 7000 feet. It was mostly sunny and an enjoyable hike. On the hike were Ted Ibrahim, Al Fedoruk, Lida Vavrova, Jana Hrncirova, Diane Lloyd, Dianne Postnikoff, Ray Neumar and Bob Dawes.

Mount New Denver (Sharp Creek Trail)

June 28&29, 1997 David Cunningham

We had planned to camp on the west shore of Slocan Lake, but unfortunately the lake level was so high that there was no beach. The campground at the base of the trail was closed due to hazardous trees that Parks had not yet cleared, so we camped in New Denver.

The water taxi was there promptly at 5:00am to whisk us across the lake. We started hiking at approximately 5:30 and arranged with the water taxi to be back at the lake by 6:30pm.

The distance from Slocan Lake to the summit is approximately 11 kilometres and the elevation gain is 7,300 feet: a very long strenuous day. There were many wild flowers along the trail, several magnificent waterfalls, and spectacular views of New Denver, Slocan Lake, and the Carpenter Creek drainage. It was an overcast day that threatened rain most of the time but actually rained only once, for about 20 minutes. This helped to keep us cool. There were many windfalls across the trail which caused problems, especially for the taller hikers, but there were only two areas where the trail was difficult to follow. The first was where the trail enters a steep avalanche area and the second was above 6000 feet where the trail was

covered with snow.

When we started to hike on the glacier about 2000 feet below the summit, a cloud system moved into the area and we were unable to see our destination. We climbed to about 8100 feet and then sat on a large rock sticking out of the snow, waiting for the clouds to clear. Unfortunately, the clouds did not clear and we did not go any further.

There were 12 people on the hike. All twelve made it to the 8100 ft. level and would have made it to the summit but for the cloudy conditions. This was a very strenuous hike and all were happy and proud of their accomplishment. The participants were Pamela Jenkins, Dennis Sims, Vicky Hart, Kevin Misurek, Suzanne Blewett, Ted Ibrahim, Norman Thyer, Anna Thyer, Judith Lawrence, Jenny Baillie, Susan Toch, and David Cunningham (leader).

Mount Mephistopheles

July 12, 1997 David Cunningham

This trip was scheduled for Saturday, July 12 but due to poor weather was postponed a day. The weather looked all right on Sunday morning so we started out. During the day we encountered rain, hail, snow, thunder and lightning, and some lovely sunshine. On the whole, I think Sunday was better than Saturday, but we still got soaking wet, especially when we were bushwacking.

Five people camped at Drinnon Lake and three car camped at the trailhead about 1200 feet below. We left the car park at 6:20 am and met the campers at about 7:00. The trail was difficult to follow because it was covered with snow most of the time. This was probably the reason we left the trail too early to bushwack to Warlock Lake. We soon corrected ourselves. Our next obstacle was Gwillim Creek. We could find no crossing point due to high water and so we took off our boots and waded the creek. We reached Warlock Lake about an hour later than we had planned and started up the rock slide covered with snow that led to the base of Mephistopheles. The map showed a relatively easy approach up to the east col and then up the east ridge of Mephistopheles. The rocks on the ridge were very slippery and caution was necessary. There was only one spot where extreme care was required and this was due to the slippery conditions.

We had been on the summit for about ten minutes when thunder and lightning started in the distance and so we decided to leave the summit immediately. When we returned to the col, we looked at Mount Trident which was up the ridge to the west and did not appear difficult or time-consuming. However, it was getting late and the weather was against us so we started our return trip. It took us six hours to reach the summit and four and a half hours to return to the parking lot.

There were eight people on the trip. They were Lisa McGregor, Darren Grund, Ian Parfitt, Kevin Misurak, Ray Neumar, Ted Ibrahim, Al Fedoruk, and David Cunningham.

Artist Point

July 13, 1997 Dave Shadbolt

The intended trip to Artist's Point finally went ahead courtesy of Kim Kratky who knew the area. Sturgis Creek Trail, starting at 15.2 km along Keen Creek road, offers the most direct approach to the peak. Unfortunately, the heavy rain and dense overgrowth dissuaded our group of five from the undertaking. Despite some interest in returning to Kaslo for a coffee we decided to drive to the Joker Lakes trail head and try Kaine Peak (9,200 ft). Our walk to the lakes began at 10.30 beneath clear skies that would prove the best weather of the day. Kim, who had reached the summit twice before, chose the most direct route that involved scrambling over both snow and rock. While two of our group stopped at around 8,200 feet, the rest of us continued until we reached somewhere around 8,600 feet. At that point, with less than 25 minutes to the summit, thunder, lightning, rain and some hail prompted a hasty retreat. We arrived back at the parking lot at 4:00.

We were: Jenny Bailey, Mary Woodward, Peter Tchir, Kim Kratky and David Shadbolt.

Mount Outlook

July 16, 1997 Kristyn McIntosh

Great turnout for a Wednesday trip: P'nina Shames, Monica Nissan, Ted Ibraham, Norman & Anna Thyer, Bob Dean, Dave Cunningham, Mary Woodward, Bruce Gardave, Kevin Forsyth, David Shadbolt & first timers Tom Green & Phil.

The trail was clear of snow most of the way to Kokanee Lake, 1 1/2 hrs up. Carpets of yellow Glacier lilies in full bloom as we crossed avalanche paths. After some discussion on the route for ascent from Kokanee Lake?! In true

KMC style we headed straight up the west spur toward the summit making the top taking 1 1/2hr on moderately steep snow slopes. Our destination been the highest point on the ridge, 8500ft. The official Mount Outlook is a bit further South along the same ridge. From the top we had great views of Mt Sunset, Sapphire Lakes, Kokanee Glacier Peaks & in the distance Mount Brennan. We relaxed enjoying lunch in the sun.

For the descent we headed North in the direction of Kaslo Lake, eager to get to Kokanee Lake we headed right, into a bowl with steep snow slopes. At the bottom we were rewarded for our efforts where there were three waterfalls in a row.

For the less confident it would be better to continue toward Kaslo Lake where a spur gives you a more gentle descent to the main trail from Slocan Chief cabin to Kokanee Lake. 2 1/2 hrs back down to Gibson Lake carpark. Norman gave us an insight into the environment on a microscopic level showing us Springtails 'being intimate' under a microscope. Along Kokanee Lake the marmots were out in force, looking hopeful for a feed. The day wound up at Jamaican Icy Spicy Takeout, Crescent Beach good ice cream if you're wondering. Thanks to everyone who attended making it such a good day.

Mt. Brennan

July 20, 1997 Norman Thyer

The originally-designated leader couldn't go, so the job went to the first participant to call him.

Meeting at Retallack at 8:30, we drove to the Lyle Creek trailhead and started hiking up the headwall at 9:45. Various people took various times in the range 45 to 75 minutes to reach the lakes at the top of the headwall in the dry heat of the morning, with the leader bringing up the rear in the traditional way. From there onwards, we were on snow most of the way, and all reached the summit before 2:00. The descent from there to the lakes took one hour.

Various flowers were out on the headwall, but there was little wildlife apart from a few insects, and the bares at the lake were not the White Grizzlies that the wilderness is named for.

Once again, Bob Dean saved the situation by taking us in his truck from highway to trailhead. We shouldn't count on him providing this service for us for more than another 40 years. Have we any alternative plans for the future?

Participants were: Jenny Baillie, Dave Cunningham, Bob Dean, Kevin Forsyth, Tom Green, Ted Ibrahim, P'nina Shames, Anita, Mary Woodward, Anna & Norman Thyer.

Note: My comment in the July 1997 issue, about Ibid being the brother of Ovid, was not meant to be taken seriously!

Haystack Peak (8500ft)

July 23, 1997 Ray Neumar

Most of us met at the Balfour ferry for the 7:40 AM sailing. Once on the east shore, it took nearly two hours via the highway to Creston and the Sanca Creek forestry road to get to the trailhead. A truck with good clearance could get close, but a four wheel drive was an asset. There are deteriorated bridges and deep culverts to cross. Nice weather, a pleasant trail, beautiful scenery with creeks and lakes along the way made the day. The final 1500 feet from the lake ponds are a scramble and most people were up at the peak by 2:30. On going back, Dave couldn't find the rock he'd put his truck keys under. After a half hour search, he saw a gopher near an upturned rock. Dave suspects the gopher took the keys. Sure, Dave!! The good news... he got the truck started without the keys. Kevin lost his sunglasses at the trailhead. If you're there and see a gopher wearing sunglasses trying to start a truck, grab him and get the stuff back! Missed the 8:10 ferry, had supper up the hill and caught the 9:50 ferry. Eleven of us made the odyssey: Norman, Anna, and Anita Thyer, Jenny Baillie, Ted Ibrahim, Dave and Chad Dever, Marg Hornby, Kevin Forsyth, Doug Bennett, and hike coordinator Ray Neumar.

Mount Akokli

July 26,1997 Kevin Forsyth

This is the fourth year I've listed the trip up Mount Akokli - and this year we almost made it! The first year I substituted an easier trip suited to the abilities of the hikers. The second year it was replaced by Ted Ibrahim's trip scheduled mid-week, when he discovered that Forestry had closed his access road on weekdays. The third year access to Akokli lay under snow - both the Gray Creek Pass and

Akokli Creek roads were closed. Other club members were beginning to doubt I would ever climb this mountain - and, in the end, I still haven't.

The easiest access to Akokli is via the Baker Lake hiking trail, then up a col off the southwest corner of the lake. I had discovered this from a recce two years earlier. This was confirmed by a trip up Mt. Haystack (Purcells) three days prior to this year's hike, where Akokli, the unnamed peak, and a unnamed ridge could all be clearly seen to the west. Access via Akokli Creek is possible, but would require two plus hours of bushwacking, and an hour and a half climb requiring belays. (I also went in to Baker Lake by this access in 1988.) For tri-atheletes, you can get to Baker Lake via the Lockhart Creek trail. You start at the lake level and the trail follows the creek for 9.5 miles to Baker Lake (and then you still have the mountain to climb!) I helped put in this trail in 1978, but can no longer attest to its condition. Dave Cunningham and Evan McKenzie took this arduous route into Baker Lake in 1996.

This year's hike went in via the Baker Lake hiking trail. It's an hour and a half drive from the ferry (we caught the 7:40 am), via Gray Creek Pass and the Redding Creek road. We met a trail clearing crew at the trailhead, and probably should have waited for them to lead the way. The trail starts on a skid trail, but drops off to the downhill side through fireweed after fifty metres. We missed this turnoff, but found it again after hearing the trail crew's chainsaws below us. Ted and I marked this turn on the way back, using rocks to block the skid trail.

The trail crosses the creek to the north side, then follows it through the woods, recrossing it later. Enroute, the trail follows a very scenic subalpine meadow surrounded by forest, with a stream meandering down the middle. Towards the southwest end of this meadow, the trail turns due south towards Baker Lake. (If you were to continue west at this junction, you would rise over a saddle and then be going down the Lockhart Creek trail). Total hiking time to the lake, one hour. Elevation gained, 1000 feet.

From Baker Lake, we headed SSW up a col to a basin below the peak often mistaken for Mount Akokli. As the col faces north, we had an easy walk on snow, with Helen kicking some very good steps on the steeper slopes. We scrambled up the unnamed peak and had lunch at 2:00. The peak we climbed was more of a challenge than Mount Akokli, albeit 100 feet lower in elevation. For those peak baggers who need to attain the higher summit, the best route is to turn SSE at the bottom of the basin, passing below this unnamed peak on the east side. We were satisfied with the peak we had climbed. (Admittedly I suggested going on, if only to tell others that "Yes, I had finally climbed Akokli). Hiking time from lake, 1.5 hours. Elevation gained, 2100 feet.

We glissaded down the snow slope to the lake, and were back at the vehicles in a mere 1.3 hours. After changing a flat tire on the drive back, we arrived at the ferry at 6:35 pm. We were Darren Grund, Ted Ibrahim, David Shadbolt, Helen Weiss, and Kevin Forsyth. Thanks to Helen for the use of her Ford Explorer.

P.S. I discovered on this trip that to prevent losing sunglasses, glue your neck cord to the frames, or drill the frames and tie the cord on. Otherwise, the cord could get snagged on brush and be pulled off!

Ymir Mountain

July 27, 1997 Reid Henderson

Sixteen happy hikers (ten KMC members) met a 9:00 under a cloudless sky at the junction of Hwy 6 and the Whitewater road, 10 km south of Nelson. We started hiking from the ski lodge at 10:45 following the Hummingbird and Yankee Girl ski runs to the saddle between White Queen and Ymir Mountains. The majority of people scaled Half Dome and followed the ridge line to Ymir Mt., arriving at 12:30. Three of us scrambled over boulders and boot stepped our way up several small snow patches back of Half Dome to the saddle that looks east into Kutetl Creek. Joined by a fourth person, we came up the east side of Ymir Mt. and met the others for lunch at 1:30. We encountered plenty of blackflies and mosquitoes. By staying on the ridges a cool breeze kept the bugs at bay and the 27° temperature and beating sun felt very comfortable. At 2:00, we started back down following the west ridge to the Summit chairlift ski runs and selected a variety of routes to boulder hop down to the more gentle slopes. Most hikers were at the lodge by 4:30. The last of the hikers (me - the leader who was sick from start to finish, later diagnosed as food poisoning) dragged himself to the lodge at 5:30. All sixteen people dispersed shortly thereafter.

We saw plenty of flowers: glacier lillies,

paint brushes, and evidence of 'rototilling' done by bears looking for a meal.

Special thanks to Ted, Maurice, and Don for providing extra water and looking after me. The happy hikers were Bob Dean, Kate Riddell, Don Harasym, Karen Lucas, Phillip Haseldine, Maurice St. Jorre, Judith Lawrence, Cindy Devine, Ted Ibrahim, Jenny Baillie, Anna Thyer, Anita Thyer, Hans Korn, Stefan Storey, Reid Henderson.

Mount Stanley

Lat. 49°32' Long. 117°57' Elevation 2366 m
August 2, 1997 Ted Ibrahim

Don't people want to go to places they do not know? Only three people showed up for this trip. Mt. Stanley is in the south end of the Slocan Valley, west of Airy Mt.. To get there, you drive 9 km up the Koch Creek road and then drive up Grizzly Creek road. Up Grizzly Creek, keep left at about 4.9 km, keep left at 7.3 km, go straight at 10.6 km, go straight at 14.4 km and turn right at 14.5 km and drive about 0.4 km, before hitting a washout in a clearcut area (elevation 1680 m). We walked the remaining short distance to the end of the road and then walked up the ridge through the clearcut. We managed to find a fairly clear route weaving through the forest above the clearcut heading in a general west direction. Eventually walking along the ridge in a westerly direction the forest cleared and we reached the first bump on the ridge at 2200 m. There was an excellent spread of flowers in this region. We went along the ridge dropping slightly and then reaching an intermediate bump (with a cairn) at 2300 m. We dropped 40 or 50 m before climbing to the summit (just under 2 hours walking easily) and continued to the end of the ridge. From the top of Mt. Stanley it looks as if there should be easy access to Mt. Speirs (2470 m) from the same road if we turn left at 14.4 km. The return was a little more difficult, because we had to hit the clearcut where the car was and I had made the mistake of not bringing flagging tape. Although the route down was as planned, we did not find as clear a route as we had on the way up. The weather was warm and clear but insects were the worst I had experienced in the Kootenays. The C3 rating, given because we did not really know, was an over estimate and it should be rated B2. All of us agreed it was a trip worth repeating. We were Mary Woodward, Anna Thyer and Ted Ibrahim.

Wolf Peak

August 6, 1997 Norman Thyer

There's great ridge-walking north of Kootenay Pass, and it offers a way to get to Wolf Peak by driving only on highways and not on roads of doubtful condition. In clear weather, we set off from the pass, up Beargrass Ridge and followed the ridges northwards. After just over 4 hours, we reached the highest point on a ridge, unnamed on the map, but to which I refer as "Wolf Ridge". According to the map. Wolf Peak was a detached but lower summit 500 metres to our northeast, but we lacked the motivation to descend and scramble up such a lesser feature. The return to the highway also took just over 4 hours.

There were still a few small patches of snow on the otherwise dry ridges. We saw only two beargrass plants in bloom; this must be their "off-year". Apart from "begging squirrels" at the parking lot and a few birds, most of the observed wildlife had 6 or 8 legs. Participants were: Susan Fisher, Ted Ibrahim, Kate Riddell, Anna & Norman Thyer and Mary Woodward.

The Sequel:

On August 18, Anna, Linda & Norman Thyer returned to the area, using a different approach. 5.2km east of Kootenay Pass, near where the power line crosses the highway, turn north on to a logging road, taking the left branch about 100m after leaving the highway. 3.2km from the highway, by a bridge, a gas pipeline right-of-way leads up to the ridge of the previous trip. This route cuts 2 hours off the hiking time in each direction.

From the summit of Wolf Ridge, it took half an hour to Wolf Peak, which has two summits, like a wolf's ears. The two mountain goats seen on the summit evidently weren't afraid of the Big Bad Wolf!

There were only two snowpatches left on the ridge, and they were smaller than before. The louseworts were going to seed, but the False Hellebore was in full flower.

...that's all that fits this month. More (especially if you send them in) in a month.....

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1997 **Next deadline: November 1**

TRIPS and EVENTS . . .

Classification of Trips (APPROXIMATE)
NOTE: The 'average' trip is rated C-3
Physical: A-easy B-fair C-average D-strenuous E-very strenuous
Technical: 1-hike 2-scramble 3-scramble, perhaps with some exposure 4-climb 5-climb, continual belays

Oct 26: Pulpit Rock B-2 Colleen Driscoll (354-4819)

Nov 2: Marsden Road Loop A-1 Christine Sutherland (352-7755)

Nov 7: Annual General Meeting

Nov 7-9: Banff Festival of Mountain Films, Details on next page.

Nov 9: Brilliant Bluffs A-1 Felix Belczyk (365-5134)

Nov 16: Slocan Ridge A-1 (& sauna) Bob Dean (359-7759)

Nov 23: Columbia Waterfront Trails A-1 Wendy Hurst (399-4157) 0900 Safeway 0930 S.Slocan 1000 Brilliant

Nov 27&28,29: Best of Banff Films. Details on next page

Dec 7: Directors' meeting, Leon Arishenkoff (365-7421). The first meeting with the newly-elected executive. As usual, members are welcome to attend or to suggest items for the agenda.

The winter schedule will be in the next issue of the newsletter.

Important Note Trip schedule changes are announced weekly via Bob Dean by e-mail. Anyone who has an e-mail address and has not yet done so is encouraged to contact Bob at bdean@kootcom.kootenay.net

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be at Trapper John's in Salmo and will cost $16 per person for dinner. The bar will open at 6:00 and dinner will be about 6:30.

It is important that you let the organizers know by Nov. 4th at the latest if you are coming. Contact one of the following:

Trail/Rossland - Joanne Baldassi 362-9461
Castlegar - Muriel Walton 365-6519
Nelson - Kim Kratky 352-5218

If you wish to carpool, please contact Norman Thyer at 352-5265.

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

* Many trip reports
* Announcements and News
* ...and, okay, a couple of cartoons too.



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

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The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

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MEMBERSHIP

The club dues are:
Individual $20.00
Couple/family $25.00
Junior $10.00
Send to: RR#1, S-13, C-19,
Nelson, BC V1L 4P5

SUBMISSIONS

I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip leaders should submit their writeups as soon after their trips as possible. Articles can be submitted in most written and electronic forms.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Suitability for publication is at the editor's discretion. Articles may be edited for clarity or for length.

From the Editor...

Well, another issue done. Number 32 for me which seems like enough, so I am 'retiring' as of this AGM. It's been a great challenge to put the thing together and the monthly executive meetings have been fun, especially once the business is over. As well, I've learned lots about desktop publishing and have actually learned how to touch type so it's been useful too!

In the time-honoured tradition, I've found someone willing to take over, so I wish Peter well and I hope you enjoy your stint as much as I have.

Many thanks especially to all you contributors and readers! *Peter Macek*

Election of Officers

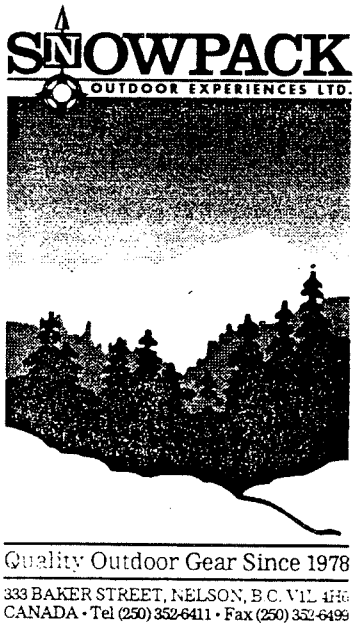
The following positions are up for election at the AGM. If you want to get more involved in the club, please consider running - it would be fun to actually have an election with real voting sometime!

President
Vice-President
Director of Hiking Camp
Director of Climbing Camp
Director of Mountaineering School
Director of Equipment, Trails, and Cabins
Director of Newsletter
Director of Summer Trips

There have been no changes to the constitution or special resolutions put forward this year.

Banff Festival of Mountain Films

Snowpack is once again sponsoring the Best of Banff films in the West Kootenays. The showings will be in Nelson at the Capitol on Nov 27 & 28 and in Rossland in the Charles Bailey Theatre on Nov 29. Each evening will have approximately seven films shown and the two nights in Nelson will each be completely different. Prices will be $12 for one showing and $20 for two evenings. Tickets are for sale at Snowpack, the Charles Bailey, and Powderhound in Trail.



Quality Outdoor Gear Since 1978
333 BAKER STREET, NELSON, B.C. V1L 4H6
CANADA • Tel (250) 352-6411 • Fax (250) 352-6499

Hamish Martin Fund

A fund was set up in Hamish Martin's memory and it is proposed to put this towards buying and installing a proper stove at the Grassy Hut in the Bonnington Range.

Karabiner

This year's karabiner is at the printers and it is planned to have it available at the AGM, so come and pick up your copy! This also means that work is well underway on the next issue, so get those articles together.

Hiking Camp

Laurie reports that hiking camp ran a small surplus this year, and as usual this will be retained in the account till next year. The money averages out and is never exact because the helicopter cost cannot be known precisely beforehand.

A Big Thank You to KMC!

Thanks to the club for renting equipment to the Kaslo Search and Rescue on the last weekend of September. Our expedition to MacBeth Glacier for mountain rescue training was shortened due to the fog and snow, making it unsafe for glacier travel. Training will resume in the spring.

Michele Lemay
for Kaslo Rope Rescue Team

Avalanche Awareness Course

Avalanche Awareness is a course in avalanche phenomena and safe winter travel techniques essential for people starting to venture into the winter backcountry and those wishing to refresh their skills.

An evening indoor session and a day trip in the backcountry will provide an intensive insight into avalanche hazard evaluation, snow stability tests, route selection, and rescue techniques.

Instructors
Laura Adams and Marc Deschenes are certified by the Canadian Avalanche Association and the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides.
December 6(eve), & 7
December 27(eve), & 28
$80
*includes course manual and certificate
For information and registration, call:
Marc at 352-9857
Laura at 352-2456

oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

Alive with the Sound of Music

Jane Steed

Pack up your dinner in your old rucksack
And hike, hike, hike.
Take all you need upon your own strong back
Wander where you like.
Leave the road to the motorcars,
The sidewalks to the bike.
Pack up your dinner in your old rucksack
And hike, hike, hike.

Tune: "Pack up your troubles"

Some of us at Camp Three were lamenting the lack of Canadian alpine songs. Others hadn't particularly noticed! Imagine my surprise when I found in a used book store a six page song booklet from the 1920's published by the Edmonton section of the ACC. The cover shows the 1920 camp at Mount Assiniboine. A little gem that is very much of that period. Many selections are from other club song books, set to tricky tunes like Men of Harlich, The British Grenadiers, or tunes that are now forgotten. The lyrics recall club celebrities, the Swiss guides, membership status, section loyalties, favourite sites, and favourite hymns. "The Feminine Crew" reminds us that it was news that women could join the ACC. When did anyone last hear "The Nail Song"?

There's a long long nail a-grinding
Into the sole of my shoe;
It's ground its way into my foot
A yard or two.
There's a long long hike before me
And that's what I'm thinking about.
Is the time when I can sit me down
And pull that long nail out.



VALHALLA MOUNTAIN TOURING

Dale Caton operates in the northern Valhallas, offering cabin rental at Ruby Creek (5800ft), either fully catered ($965/7 days) or not ($490/7 days), with transportation to and from cabin and discounts for a group of ten. The cabin can serve as a base for skiing in the surrounding alpine bowls or safe tree skiing in bad weather.

Also, in the warm days of April, tour the remote basins of the Valhallas on a 5 day traverse (April 12-16 or 19-24). Price of $385 per person ($345 if group of 8) includes snowcat transportation to trailhead, guide, 2 base camps.

For more information or booking, you can fax or phone (250) 358-7905.

Molly Gibson Trail

I have located the upper half of the trail shown on the 1925 Kokanee Glacier Park map as going from Molly Gibson mine site to Gibson Lake. Is anyone interested in helping to locate the lower half of the trail?

Norman Thyer

Map Buyers Beware!

Norman Thyer

I recently bought a 1:100,000 topographic map, 82 F/SW (Trail), to replace an old one. The new one is dated 1995, so I expected it to be up-to-date on major features.

When I inspected it at home, I found that the section of Highway 3 between Castlegar and Salmo which had been opened about 1980 was missing from the map. The bridge where Highway 3A crosses the Kootenay River at Taghum was shown in its old position, where the bridge was dismantled several years ago, and not in the location that was opened about 1981. Also missing are a power line going south from Glade and the new road bridge between Castlegar and Robson, while the road between Keenleyside Dam and Syringa Creek Park appears to disappear into Arrow Lake for a while.

While the omission of Robson bridge, a fairly recent feature, may be excusable, omission of a 17-year-old section of a major highway should not be. Therefore I considered the map to be defective, and took it back the next day to the Government Agent's office in Nelson, where I had bought it for $8.25 plus $1.16 taxes. I was told that a return and refund was not allowed.

So the moral is: check your map in detail before you buy it. Caveat Emptor!

Note also that contrary to last month's news about maps, the Siocan and Kaslo 1:100,000 maps do not exist.



Kootenay EXPERIENCE

Avalanche Awareness

(limited to 12 participants) $95

Introduction to the avalanche phenomena, with emphasis on terrain and route finding for safe travel. You should understand these basic concepts thoroughly before you venture out of bounds. Includes Avalanche transceiver instruction and practice

November 29 & 30 (Weekend)
December 13 & 14 (Weekend)
January 3 & 4 (Weekend)
January 10 & 11 (Weekend)

Advanced Avalanche Awareness

(limited to 6 participants) $95

Following on from the Avalanche Awareness course which is a prerequisite. Further study on avalanche forecasting and safe skiing practices.

December 13 & 14 (Weekend)
January 24 & 25 (Weekend)

Beginner Telemark

(limited to 12 participants) $95

Designed to instil good technique for the absolute novice and the struggling beginner. You will be linking turns confidently after this course.

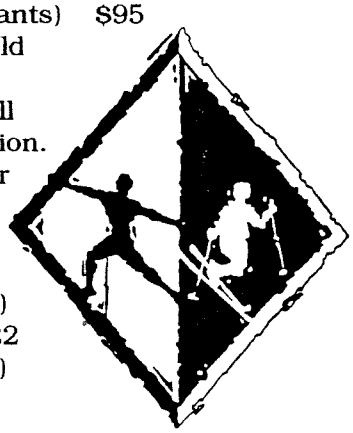
January 17 & 18 (Weekend)
February 14 & 15 (Weekend)

Intermediate Telemark

(limited to 12 participants) $95

At this state you should be able to link turns However, there are still some points of confusion. You will have a greater understanding of the zen of telemark

February 7 & 8 (Weekend)
February 21 & 22 (Weekend)



Winter Camping

(limited to 6 participants) $95

Backpacking on skis, igloo construction, trip planning and more.

March 7 & 8 (Weekend)

Sunday Ski Tours

Focusing on the basic skills of ski touring and familiarisation with equipment we will make an ascent of a popular peak. Some time will be spent making turns in safe, and easy powder slopes. A perfect way to find the best places to ski in the Kootenays. Each session will travel to a different location depending on conditions. Some of the destinations include Evening Ridge, Sherpa Valley and Ymir Peak. Basic skiing skills essential. Some instruction available.

Sundays in February & March Cost $45

Valhalla Winter Traverse

(limited to 6 participants) $595

This is the quintessential ski traverse of the Kootenays. Highly technical, tricky route finding, incredible skiing in a remote, untravelled Provincial Park. Experienced alpinist Barry Blanchard called it "the best ski tour in the world". This tour will extend over 8-10 days and should only be attempted by intermediate skiers in strong physical condition.

Early April 1997.

Rock Climbing Instruction

Call for details on our wide variety of rock climbing programs from Beginner to Advanced and children to seniors!

Rentals and shop work

(bindings mounted, boots resoled, etc) are also available.

For details, visit 306 Victoria St. Nelson BC V1L 4K4, phone (250) 354-4441, email kootexp@netidea.com, or browse the website at www://Netidea.com/~kootexp/

TRIP REPORTS

Mt. Sherman (8250')

Kim Kratky

Mike Hryniuk says this is the first peak he ever climbed, the thing that got him interested in mountaineering. Although offering no technical interest, it does make a pleasant outing. This is one of those trips that demands more driving than hiking time.

From Kootenay Bay ferry terminal, head down Highway 3A to the Sanca Creek Forest Service Road (signed), a drive of 46 to 48 km. Following Sanca Creek road, drive to the signed turnoff on the left for Sherman Lake (14.3 km). Again following very good signage, follow this road a further three kilometres to the point where it ends at a creek crossing (4WD, low range, high clearance; there are deep water bars). Park your vehicle (lots of space), cross the creek, and follow the signed trail to Sherman Lake (45 minutes to an hour).

Contour along the north side of the lake until the trail disappears, then gain rockslides and scree to head generally west into a basin above the lake. Make for the low point in a south-tending ridge southwest of the lake (267-738 on "Boswell" 82F/7) and drop into a beautiful larch-filled valley to the west. Cross the basin and gain Sherman's quite broken east ridge and follow it over several false summits to the top, a pleasant scramble (2.5 hours from the car park).

Sherman can be gained quite easily from cut blocks on its south side, if you can find the right spur road. However, it seems much more sporting and scenic to approach via Sherman Lake. Good views can be had from the summit of the main south arm of Kootenay Lake and of the Nelson Range. John Carter's book, Hiking the West Kootenay, provides very good instructions for reaching Sherman Lake.

Titei Mtn (8405') and Blacktail Mtn (8176')

July 16, 1997 Kim Kratky

This summer, Peter Tchir and I made an outing to these two peaks that make up part of Wilfred Ridge in the Kokanee Group. We think that Titei, would make a very good KMC day trip. Here's how to get there. Departing from Silverton, follow the Silverton Creek road from its beginning just south of the bridge in town to its very end at about 16.4 km. The last few kilometres are getting overgrown, but the roadbed is quite good; 4WD is useful. There is a small parking area for the Fishermaiden Lake trail.

Follow this trail for about ten minutes, until you see a sign marking the Billy Valentine trail to the left. Turn onto it and follow the flagging. Although the trail itself is hard to make out in its lower portions, within fifteen to twenty minutes you will emerge onto a very good track that takes you to the lower of two lakes west of Titei (at 6500'; coordinates 848-237 on map 82F/14 "Slocan"). From this point, traverse southeast on alpine terrain (no trail) towards Titei's west face. The face is a reasonably high-grade scramble on good granite. For those who prefer an easier route, the northwest ridge would be a snap. Our time to the summit was 3.5 hours.

We continued from Titei along to the southwest, traversing an 8250' bump en route to Blacktail, which we ascended by the easy southeast ridge (two hours from Titei). On our return, we circumvented Blacktail on the south and east, crossed over a rib north of that peak, and descended to the aforementioned lakes to regain the trail. This wound up being a nine hour day, but a trip to Titei only would be in the six-to-seven hour range for most parties.

Mt. Fisher

July 23, 1997 Pamela Jenkins

To reach the trailhead to Mt. Fisher, we took the Mouse Creek forestry turnoff from the highway to Norbury Lakes near Fort Steele. The roads did require a vehicle with high clearance, but there were very few water bars.

We slept in the camper at the trailhead enabling us to set out at 6:30am. The trail climbs steeply through woods and crosses an area of large rocks and boulders where we lost the trail, but found it again by a babbling brook. It led through soothing glades past a memorial bench left by a family in memory of a loved one. We had to cross some snow and then climb a scree and boulder slope to a col, with the Mt. Fisher ridge to our left (north) and steep-walled jagged peaks to our right. Here we took photos and had snacks, but over the ridge out of the wind. The trail seemed to continue around the back of the mountain, until it

petered out. By this time we were quite high up, but not able to reach the summit, so we somehow manoeuvred our way back to the ridge where we found a cairned route through the rocks to the summit, which we reached about 11:00. At the top, a metal box and mountain effigy sit on a pole. The box contains a summit register which had been signed every day since the middle of June and quite often before that, even in the winter months. Mt. Fisher is a great scramble and the route mostly well defined.

Three others were approaching the summit as we started our descent. Storm clouds had been brewing during the hour we had spent at the top. Dennis hurried to join those three, who had overtaken us at some point. They talked at the col while I continued to tip toe down through the rocks. It did rain, it did snow, but not too much.

The storm blew over as quickly as it had appeared. About ten hours later, we were back at the camper tired but very satisfied. Present: Pamela Jenkins (reporter) and Dennis Sims.

Dennis continued on to the Rockies alone to do some more technical climbing. He followed a route over some slabs to the Neil Cogan hut above Morraine Lake, which I may not have been able to do. He climbed Mt. Bowlen above Morraine Lake and phoned me to tell of these adventures on Thursday. He also said that he would spend a few more days in the Rockies, but be home in time to prepare for the Third Hiking Camp. That was not to be.

On Thursday, July 31st, Dennis had set out on the Berg Lake (Mt. Robson) trail with an overnight pack. He was concerned that he may have left the stove on in the camper, so he carefully hid his pack in the bushes about two kilometres along the trail and the jogged in the heat back to the camper (He had been planning to compete in the running event at the BC Senior Games). He felt very strange and sick and so lay down on the gravel by his truck.

I (Pamela) received a phone call from Valemont telling of my husband's heart attack. My initial reply was, "Sorry, wrong number". Dennis was transferred that night to the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops, where they have more sophisticated equipment and better drugs. He was released after one week and is now home, but still has breathing problems and is unable to continue with his construction and other projects.

Monica Meadows/Glacier Dome

August 3, 1997 Al Fedoruk

We managed a 6am departure from Nelson and were booted up, bug sprayed, signed in, sun-screened and ready to go at the trailhead at 9:30. 23 of us made our way up to the base of the Meadows in about an hour. At that point, confusion reigned. It took us a while to decide who was heading further up, who was camping, where the camping would take place, what route to take up to the ridge and who would get Bob to stop singing. 13 members of the group spent the afternoon exploring the meadows and swatting flies. Al, Darrin, Ted, Kevin, Mario, Lida, Hans, Bob, Katrina and Vince made our way up to the col immediately to the east of the meadows. From there the way to Glacier Dome was apparent. However, it was getting late and it was not clear which snow patches were covering ice, so we decided to tackle the peaks on the ridge we were on. Ted, Hans and Kevin went right and the rest of us went left. Both groups scrambled up to peaks over 9,000 feet. The descent was straightforward, and included a refreshing splash in one of the small lakes in the meadows. Five of us (Al, Vince, Rita, Kevin & Katrina) camped in the meadows packed up the next morning, drove to the Jumbo pass trailhead and hiked up to the pass. The weather was perfect the entire weekend, hot and virtually cloudless. The views from the meadows of Horseshoe Glacier, and the MacBeth Icefield fantastic.

We were: Al Fedoruk, Sara Bhabra, Cynthia Quinn-Young, Ted Ibrahim, Mario Sedlacko, Darrin Grund, Bob Hawes, Edmund Lehman, Marya Caillet, Elaine Martin, Bob Dean, Gisela Lehman, Vince Van Tougeron, Katrina Bennett, Susie O'Donnell, Lisa Macgregor, Rita Wege, Maxine Werner, Lisa Vavrova, Kevin Masurak, Pat West, Margo Sawyer, Hans Korn.

Woden Peak, Mckean Lakes

August 10, 1997 Andre Zimmermann

At 7:00 AM a group of hikers met at the Kootenay Credit Union bound for Woden Peak and the Mckean lakes. Eleven people in total headed up Koch Creek to the trailhead. The trail was in great shape and we were soon at the lakes, the group then proceeded up towards the peak. Peter Tchir ran off in the lead and

was awoken by seven other people on the summit an hour after he had initially arrived. During the trip Bob Dean introduced us to a song about the old men of KMC which was enjoyable. From the peak it was estimated we could see about 100 miles, including Howser Spire and possibly the Albert Glacier. The group was back at the cars in the late afternoon and soon on its way home to dinner. thanks to all who came out and enjoyed the trip and a special thanks to those who where around to help me with not one, but two flat tires on the way out. Participants were Bob D., Dan G., Seamus G., Mario S., Peter T., Peter J.,Vicky, Julio, Joe, Dave and Andre.

Gwillim Lake

August 23, 1997 Rita Wege

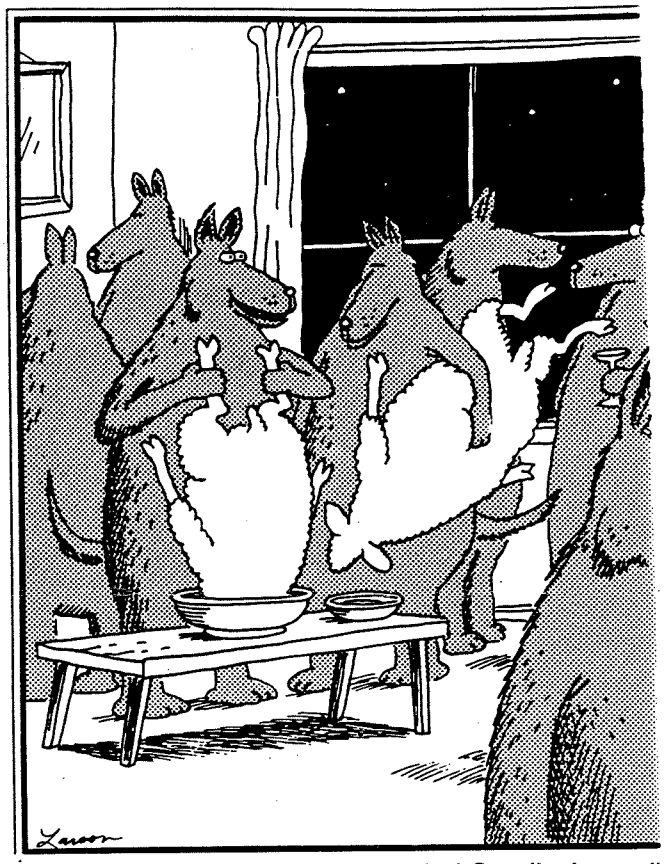
A group of ten hikers met at the Credit Union at 8am. We expected to be at the trail head by 10:15 but discovered the road access from Passmore was closed due to bridge construction. The detour to the Slocan City access resulted in our not getting onto the trail until 11:30am. Following the well maintained trail under cloudy skies we reached Gwillim Lake for a late lunch. The wind was brisk and we bundled up against the cold. There were some campers still in the meadows. Most of the overnighters had already left the meadows and we encountered them on our way up. Due to our late start the attempt to climb Lucifer by some of the members was aborted.

Participants: Susie O'Donnell, Hans Korn, Mario Sedlacko, Olga Rouptach, Mary Baker, Maxine Werner, Anja Logodi, Wendy Gagnon, Dave Devers and Rita Wege.

Texas Peak

August 27, 1997

Sixteen of us met at Retallack at 8:30am and drove south on the Stenson Creek road, parking just below the Reco col. The lower section of this road has been improved by the 'clear cut loggers' but the upper part of the road is deteriorating and has some narrow spots on it. The weatherman cooperated nicely and we had an enjoyable trip. It took just 2 hours to reach the summit from the vehicles but a lot longer to return due to flower inspections, joke telling and various other activities.



"Well, *I'm* addicted. ... Have you tried Carol's sheep dip?

Mt. Ludlow

August 31, 1997 Norman Thyer

Our road approach for this trip was the same as for Mt. Freya on September 3, 1995. (See KMC Newsletter for October 1995.) The Watson Creek road was still in good condition apart from one hundred and eleven deep waterbar trenches across it. The correct approach involved avoiding a branch to the right at about 4km from the Koch Creek road (leading to the SW side of Mt. Freya) and one to the left at about 7km.

From the end of the road, we could ascend Mt. Ludlow by going about a quarter of the way up the SE edge of the adjacent clearcut, then going between the trees to the right into an open area extending right up to the main ridge. On reaching the ridge, traverse left to the summit. Ascent time was under 2 hours. There is another open area leading more directly to the summit from a point about 300m before the end of the road, but travel on it is less pleasant. Apparently one could also pro-

ceed east from the end of the road to the lowest point on the ridge joining Mts. Ludlow and Freya, but this route would involve some rock-scrambling.

Participants were: Bob Dean, Susan Fisher, Don Harasym, Ted Ibrahim, Anja Logodi, Gill & Karl Merschenz, Louis Sant, Mario Sedlacko, Stefan Storey, Anna, Linda & Norman Thyer, Mary Woodward.

Chimney Rock 7124

Mt. Roothaan 7326

September 6 & 7, 1997 Fred Thiessen

What a great weekend. Good company, good weather, huckleberries,and a very pleasant climb.

After assembling at the Newport Safeway, we drove up the east side of Priest Lake, then up to the old L/O site on Horton Ridge. From here, a 1.5 km hike took us to a nice campsite at the base of Chimney Rock. With time left in the day, Helen and Bob set off and climbed the standard route on the Rock to return by 1930 while the rest of us watched. On Sunday we repeated their route (5.3) while they climbed another route on the sunny east side.We were back at our campsite for lunch, then we walked out. Its a long way to drive for a short climb, but its a very nice area, easy to get to and a pleasant climb. There has been some road deactivation in the area, so the description in Idaho Rock to get to the L/O is not correct. You need to take the Hunt Creek Road, then at about 5 km, turn left to access the Horton Creek drainage and ridge. For navigation, the Idaho Panhandle National Forests Map is a must.

We were: Larry Smith, Penny & Robin Lidstone, Peter & Amy Tchir, Helen Weiss, Bob _ , and Ted Ibrahim.

Old Glory (7794ft/2376m)

September 7, 1997 Reid Henderson

The scheduled hike to Silver Spray Cabin was re-routed to Old Glory due to sightings by Parks officials of an 'obnoxious' grizzly bear near the cabin. Our cavalcade left Safeway in Nelson shortly after 7:00 making stops in South Slocan and Castlegar before becoming a full complement of twenty-one hikers, (sixteen KMC members), at the Hanna Creek trailhead at 8:50.

Under high cloud and filtered sun - with a temperature around 9C - we followed the trail through Plewman Basin to Unnecessary Ridge. The 'gazelles' were on the ridge by 10:00 with us 'plodders', (berry pickers, 'walk-talk-and-gawkers'), arriving thirty minutes later. Looking across to Old Glory and just above tree line, we saw with the naked eye, a black bear foraging for food.

We left the ridge at 11:00 and dropped down to the foot of Old Glory. Although we were aware of "Smoky's" location, and it of ours, we separated into two groups: seven 'gazelles' going up the front while the others followed the trail. The fourteen 'trailers' were blessed with the early sighting of a mountain goat. (Later to become two mountain goats seen by the whole party.)

All hikers were on top for lunch by 12:15. Under mid-afternoon clear skies from the top Norman advised us we could see Cathedral Park (west of Keremeos), 150 km away and Snowcrest, 110 km east. An hour later, everyone followed the trail back to Unnecessary Ridge, arriving at 1:50. After resting for twenty minutes, we determined that a side trip to Mt. Plewman would make our day too long. Four people went down the same way we came up, via Plewman Basin while the rest enjoyed a nice leisurely walk through the flowering meadows along Saddleback Trail. The group was all accounted for back at the vehicles at 4:00.

Besides seeing the bear and the mountain goats (which were undoubtedly the highlights), we picked and ate huckle- and elderberries (but left the red, and likely poisonous, baneberries), and saw lots of flowers. (I will not try to impress readers with what I think I saw!)

We were: Don Harasym, Mario Sedlacko, Olga Rouptach, Lida Vavrova, Dianne Lloyd, Susan Fisher, Kate Riddell, Al Fedoruk, Stephan Storey, Mary Woodward, Rita Wege, John Rushforth, Bob Dean, Anna Thyer, Norman Thyer, Richard Green (and well-behaved pup Dusty), Steve Miros, Jill Watson, Anne Symington, Karl Steck, and Reid Henderson.

Old Glory

September 10, 1997 Roy Hopland

A great day for an early fall hike on a popular mountain. The start was from the highway at Hanna Creek under sunny conditions and the return was with overcast skies with a threat of rain that never materialized.

The trip duration was about 8 hours with

about 1.5 hours on the summit enjoying the scenery, wildlife, and mountain music supplied by Morgen on the Zafoon. A mountain goat was observed on the way up and five bears were watched from the top in the north basin feeding on berries. Almost as many bears there as have been reported within Rossland!

We were: (from New Denver) Susan Toch, Morgen Spiess - visitor from Kettle Falls, with Zafoon; (from Nelson) Margaret Hornby, Sara McEwen, Pauline Riley; (from Robson) Elaine Miros, Hazel Kirkwood; (from Montrose) Hans Korn; and (from Rossland) Jill Watson, Anja Logodi, Roy Hopland.

Mount Monica (10,037)

September 13, 1997 Ron Perrier

After a week of rain, Saturday's forecast was for sun. Hamish and I car camped on the N. fork of Glacier Creek and Al and Vince spent the night in the Monica Meadows parking lot. Kate left Nelson at 4:30 and we started walking at 7:40. After a night of constant rain, we awoke to fresh snow on all the mountains. We left the trail before the meadows and followed the crest of the ridge directly to the base of Mount Aten (9800').

Aten is the double summitted peak between the meadows and Mount Monica. On light, fresh snow most of the way, we scrambled up the obvious ridge directly to the summit of Aten. Just below the top, we turned NW along a ledge and then over slippery, snow-covered rocks to the Monica-Aten col. As it was late and because of all the fresh snow, we decided to do only Aten, where we had lunch at 12:30. We scrambled down the SE ridge of Aten to reach the same ridge and route home. It was a beautiful, sunny day - but cold on top. There were great views of all the big mountains and glaciers in every direction.

We were: Hamish Mutch (leader) Al Fedoruk, Vince Van Tangeren, Kate Riddell and Ron Perrier.

Fays Peak (9242')

September 20 & 21, 1997 Fred Thiessen

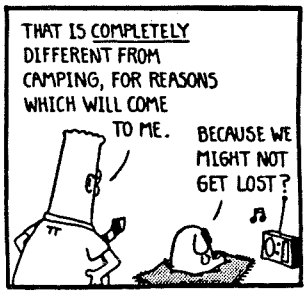
The mountain experience doesn't get much better. Perfect weather, warm temperatures, great views and a pleasant climb.

From Gerrard, we drove up the Horsefly Creek logging and mining road to camp at 6800 at a wide spot on the road. On Sunday, we walked on the old road to the headwaters of American Creek where we then travelled cross country on open easy terrain to the south ridge of Fays Peak. From here we scrambled up the south ridge to reach the summit at 1000 hours. We then traversed down the north ridge to a low point and returned to the cars at 1400 hours. Paul and Peter spying another peak 1.5 km to the NE set off to climb it to return later. Fays Peak is a third class scramble, fortunately all the fresh snow was melted on the south ridge so the climb was pleasant. With respect to the road, the last 4 km of road are high clearance, low range 4 WD. Nervous 4 WD drivers would likely want to stop where we did, non nervous types by backing between switchbacks could drive to 7200 (1.8 km further) to the ridge between American and Horsefly Creeks. Had we done so we could have shaved an hour off our time. Fays peak could be climbed as a day trip from Nelson, its the driving time that takes so long, its 168 km and 3 hours from Nelson to where we parked.

We were: Paul Allen, Hamish Mutch, Rudi Goetzen, Peter Tchir, Joe Swartz, Ian Hogg and Fred Thiessen.







KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1997 ISSUE 8 Next Deadline: January 15,

TRIPS AND EVENTS ...

WINTER TRIPS...

The winter schedule is enclosed with this newsletter so I have omitted the next month summary that usually appears at this location. Please read the Responsibility Guidelines for Coordinators and Participants. As well, understand the trip classification system that Peter Jordan has used so as to be prepared for the variability of winter conditions.

SUMMER TRIPS...

As many of you are aware, Bob is already well into producing next summer's trip schedule. If you have trips you would like to coordinate for the club, please contact Bob - there is always room for more good trips.

***At the December 9, 1997 meeting, the executive board direct Paul Allen, the new Director of Climbing to take on a more expanded roll. Paul will organize climbing camp, but will also prepare a summer "climbing schedule" to expand the number of trips classed as 4 and 5 on the present schedule being prepared by Bob. The plan is to have two schedules, one "hiking" and one "climbing". Paul's schedule will be prepared later in the spring and he will be looking for appropriate trips. ***

FROM THE EDITOR...

This newsletter is a bit late and I apologize for that. I guess I was hoping the mail strike would last through Christmas, but it would appear that free bargaining in public sector areas does not go along with a free market economy. The other reason this is late, is that I am a neophyte at all the electronic publishing and document transfer that seems to go into newsletters these days. I must thank Peter Macek for his knowledgeable help.

However, things will only get better, so do get items for the newsletter in by the appropriate deadline using any of the methods listed with my name on page 2.

THE EXECUTIVE...

President - Dave Mitchell
Vice-President - Drew Desjardins
Hiking Camps - Laurie Charlton
Climbing Camp -Paul Allen
Equipment, Trails, Cabins - Mark Hamilton
Mountaineering School - Peter Bullock
Newsletter - Peter Tchir
Treasurer - Elaine Martin
Secretary - Leon Arishenkoff
Summer Trips - Bob Dean
Winter Trips - Peter Jordan
Conservation - Ted Ibrahim
Karabiner - Joan Grodzki
Entertainment - Joanne Baldassi
Membership - Joan Grodzki

MEMBERSHIP...

Reminder that 1997 is ending and you should immediately send in your membershi dues to Joan Grodzki.

KARABINER...

The 1996 Karabiner was distributed at the AGM. If you haven't got yours, contact the appropriate person below.

Castlegar/Rossland	Ron Perrier
Trail/Fruitvale/Montrose	Elaine Martin
Slocan Valley	Peter Macek
Nelson	David Cunningham

The 1997 issue of the Karabiner is starting to be assembled. Please give your articles and photographs to Joan Grodzki.

HIKING CAMP...

Laurie has some ideas for next summer, but is very

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

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MEMBERSHIP

The annual KMC dues are:

Individual	$20.00
Couple/Family	$25.00
Junior	$10.00

Send to: RR#1, S-13, C-19
Nelson, BC V1L 4P5

SUBMISSIONS

I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip coordinators should arrange for trip reports to be submitted as soon after trips as possible. Articles may be submitted in most paper and electronic formats.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Suitability for publication is at the editor's discretion. Articles may be edited for clarity and length.

open to any suggestions that he might not be aware of. Contact him if you know of a great location.

E-MAIL...

Bob Dean has a long list of e-mail addresses but there may be many members who have e-mail but are not on the list. When you renew membership for 1998, add your e-mail address to the information you send in or simply contact Bob and give it to him personally.

SUMMIT REGISTERS...

Ron Perrier is looking into stocking local mountains with sturdy and complete summit registers. When he has the details of cost and participation of other groups such as ACC, a program of placing these will by tied in to the trip schedules. Any helpful ideas? Contact Ron.

AVALANCHE TRANSCEIVERS...

The KMC is considering upgrading the dozen or so transceivers (Pieps) that it has available for rent. The present ones are old and may be failing but also are not as powerful nor as easy to use as newer models. The plan would be to carry this out over several years, but even so would likely cost a thousand dollars each year ($250 per unit). The executive questioned whether the KMC should be taking on a task that can be met by commercial outlets and that may put some unacceptable responsibilities on the club. The topic was tabled till the January meeting and in the interim the executive would appreciate any input members might provide. The best contact might be Peter Jordan.

TO BUY OR SELL...

Wanted: One sectional ski-pole or sectional aluminum tent pole.
Norman Thyer 352-5265

For Sale: Asolo Guide AFS climbing boots, fits men's size 8 1/2 to 9 1/2, only worn twice, asking $250 (new price is $325 + tax). Contact Margo Williams at 250-362-5297 or PO Box 1384, Rossland, BC, V0G 1Y0 or mwilliams@kootenay.net

TRIP REPORTS...

Mount Cody (8100')
September 21,1997 Jan Micklethwaite

This trip was originally planned for Pontiac Peak but the road was impassible so we decided to climb Mount Carlyle from the head of Carpenter Creek. We drove past Sandon and Cody, taking the higher left turns at each junction. The beginning of the road between kilometre 12 and 13 to the head of the creek was too overgrown to use, so after some indecision we decided on climbing Mt. Cody. The road crosses the creek past kilometre 13 and follows a 4WD road to a parking area. We followed a rudimentary track to the basin, where three fallers were logging on the north side. We reached the NW ridge of Cody, had lunch and climbed to what appeared to be the summit. There was fresh snow and slippery rocks but many members of the group made it to the true summit, which was SW. Some went back down by the

same route and the rest continued on the SW ridge, down a loose rocky bowl and into the basin. It was then an easy bushwhack down to the road and the cars. The leader arrived last and was greeted by a rousing KMC cheer. From the top of Cody we could easily see the good miner's trail below the west ridge of Carlyle. We were: Ron Perrier (leader), Bob Dean, Suzanne Blewett, Hans Korn, Stephan Storey, Vince Van Tangeren, Stephany Dean, Leon Arishenkoff, Jan Micklethwaite, Mark and Debbie Hatlen, Doug Brown, Joyce Brittany, Susan Toch, Nigel Tuffrey, Tara Brookmar, Eric Ackerman and Jill Watson.

Plaid Lake
October 4, 1997 Evan McKenzie

Four of us met on a cloudy, drizzly Saturday morning for the trip to Plaid Lake in the vicinity of Crawford Bay. We caught the 7:40 ferry and were hiking up the four wheel drive access road to the trailhead by 9:15. As we climbed up the ridge to the south of Mount Crawford, rain changed to wet snow and slushy snow obscured parts of the trail. At the top of the ridge at 7100', one of our party decided to turn back due to slippery footing along the trail. There was about a foot of snow at this elevation and soon we were unable to follow the trail that descended to the lake. We decided to keep going up, so, kicking steps in the snow, we climbed the remaining 600' to the top of Mount Crawford.

We reached the peak at about 11:15. It was very wintry on the top with gusty winds and swirling snow, so we didn't linger. We snapped a couple of pictures for proof of our insanity, then headed back down. By this time, we were all totally soaked. Rather than stop for lunch, we kept walking to stay warm. We met up with the other member of our group back at the vehicle at about 12:45, and dined and warmed up in the vehicle before returning to the comforts of home. Despite what some may say, it felt good to get out and experience the elements! We were Kate, Hans, Anja, and Evan.

Copper Mountain
October 19, 1997 Anna Thyer

What seemed like weeks of rain, followed by some clear sunny fall days, may have been the reason for the record high number of people who came on he trip. On Saturday evening 25 people had signed up and only Bob Dean among them had a 4-wheel-drive truck, which had transported only 17 in and on it previously. When we met at 0900 hours at the Taghum Bridge there were at least 43 people who turned up. (I still have not learned to confidently & accurately count that many "mobile" people in one place!!) Thanks to what I suspect had been diligent "recruiting" by some, we also had eight 4x4s which then transported all of us to the end of the road.

The weather was sunny and warm with only minimal snow on the trail. At the top, the 360degrees visibility of snow-capped peaks and golden fall colours of trees remains memorable. Indeed a great place to have lunch. The lady beetles thought it was a great place too, with dozens of them clustered under stones and a few venturing out into the sunshine.

Then 8 people decided to climb Red Mt. while the rest went to the cabin; the trail to it remains unmarked - apparently the flagging on the trees marks a mineral claim.

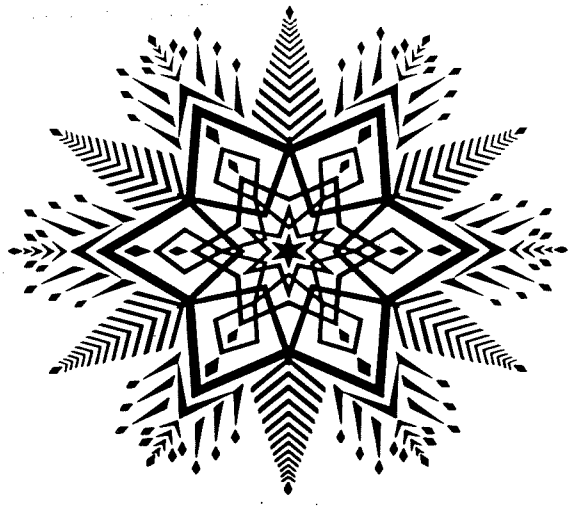
What a surprise to see our club president David Mitchell on his bike to check out the wood supply at the cabin! That kind of a president deserves at least another year in that position! Here is my vote!

Since we returned early (3pm) to the cars, another 12 people decided it was too beautiful a day to return early and climbed Red Mt. before heading home. Out of the 43 people, 15 were non-members.

ALSO FOLLOWING IN THIS ISSUE...

MEMBERSHIP LIST...
This is the big list as of the end of the year with 225 listings, many of them including several members.

WINTER SCHEDULE AND RESPONSIBILITIES...



KMC Responsibility Guidelines for Coordinators and Participants

Responsibilities of Party Coordinators attending club trips

Before the trip

1. Do not undertake organization of a trip beyond your capabilities. Change the objective or arrange for another coordinator.
2. Be familiar with the area (unless the trip is exploratory in intent). If you have not done the climb recently, a recce a few weeks before the trip is an excellent idea. Talk to people familiar with the area; check the guidebooks, old Newsletters, old Karabiners, CAJ journals, Parks Branch, Forest Service, etc.
3. Pick up or ensure the necessary equipment is on the trip: Ice axes, crampons, Pieps, first aid kit, and repair kit. Make arrangements for huts, campsites, and registration as required.
4. Notify a responsible person where you are going and when you will be coming back. Tell them when you return!

Choosing and organizing the party

5. The coordinator has full authority to reject anyone he or she feels is unsuited for the trip. For more difficult trips ask people unknown to you what their qualifications are and who they have climbed with.
6. Explain to people what the trip entails: how difficult, how strenuous, what equipment is needed. This is especially important for newcomers, who may not understand the need for proper boots or even rain gear.
7. The coordinator arranges the most economical use of cars. Each passenger should pay a reasonable proportion of the gas and oil expenses of the trip.
8. Make clear arrangements for the assembly of the party at an easily recognizable place at a definite time. Wait a reasonable time for latecomers.

On the trip

9. Before leaving the cars, check that everyone, especially anyone inexperienced, is properly equipped. Those who are not should not start out.
10. On many trips it is a good idea to appoint an end person who comes last and makes sure no stragglers fall by the wayside. The end person generally carries the first aid kit. In a large group a second coordinator may be desirable to cover the stragglers.
11. Set a pace that allows the party to stay together, both going up and coming down. Space rests so as to prevent straggling! With large parties, count numbers once in a while to make sure everyone is still together.
12. The coordinator doesn't need to remain in front providing he or she can maintain control of the party. The coordinator and all experienced members have a responsibility to give instruction to the less experienced. Team less experienced members with more experienced members.
13. All decisions should be made with a margin of safety. When in doubt, use common sense and accepted normal procedure.
    - allow enough time for the trip; start early.
    - rope up before a difficult section.
    - turn back when necessary: difficulties, a weak party, lack of time, weather, fatigue, etc.
    - watch for avalanche and rockfall hazard, and act accordingly.
    - in wet or cold weather watch for hypothermia in poorly clad individuals.
    - stay in touch with the group's feelings and respect them.
14. The coordinator should stay at the cars until everyone is down.

After the trip

15. Return club equipment promptly so next party can use it.
16. Send a trip report to the newsletter editor.

Responsibilities for members attending club trips

1. Ensure your abilities are up to the trip's difficulty. Use the trip grading system on the schedule.
2. Phone the coordinator several days in advance to confirm your attendance, preferably by Wednesday evening at the latest.
3. Show up on time and be prepared physically, mentally, and equipment-wise for the outing you are going on.
4. Return rented/borrowed equipment promptly.
5. Share expenses.

In case of an accident

1. The coordinator should consider the severity and implications of the accident, the remaining hazards, the terrain, and the availability of resources when deciding what to do next.
2. The coordinator should ensure that everyone's present safety is maintained and danger is minimized as is consistent with emergency activities.
3. If help is needed, the coordinator should organize an orderly expedition.
4. If conditions permit, witnesses should stay in the area to provide any necessary information to rescue personnel.
5. All party members should (1) informs the person(s) in charge of any special abilities; (2)ensure their own safety and, if their help is not required, stay clear of rescue activities; (3) cooperate with everyone involved in emergency operations.
6. If the accident is serious enough to warrant aerial evacuation, contact the nearest ambulance or RCMP detachment who will dispatch a helicopter with a first aid attendant.

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Winter Trip Schedule 1997-1998

Dec.	14	Plewman Basin	C3	David Mitchell	354-4052
	20 s	Clearwater Creek	B2	Tom Johnston	352-7025
	21	Mt Gimli area (Valhallas)	C4	Peter Jordan	352-5225
	26	The Annual Turkey Burner Tour	F3	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
	28	Kootenay Pass	C3	Roland Perrin	352-5480
Jan.	3 s	London Ridge	C4	Robin Lidstone	825-4260
	4	TBA		Dave Horner	352-3223
	10 s	Kootenay Pass	B2	Bob Hawes	428-5633
	11	Kootenay Pass(suitable for beginners)	A2	Bob Hawes	428-5633
	11	Evening Ridge	B3	Dave Adams	359-8112
	18	Grohman Creek	C3	Dwain Boyer	825-4654
	24 s	Clearwater Creek to Ymir	C2	Dave Cunningham	352-7434
	25	Mt Heimdal	D3	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
Feb.	1	Goat Creek	C3	Roland Perrin	352-5480
	7 s	Huckleberry Hut	B3	Vivien Bowers	825-4392
	8	Kutetl Basin	D4	Peter Tchir	359-7440
	15	London Ridge	D4	Bob Hellman	825-9571
	22	5-Mile Basin	C3	Dave Toews	825-9346
Mar.	1	Plewman-Berry traverse	C3	Roy Hopland	362-7278
	8	Cornice Ridge (Kootenay Pass)	C3	Dave Adams	359-8112
	14 s	Michener Creek (Paulson area)	C2	Mary Baker	368-5530
	15	TBA		Curt Nixon	352-1643
	22	TBA		Fred Thiessen	352-6140
	29	Michener Creek Falls	C2	Dennis Holden	365-2715
Apr.	5	5-Mile-Kutetl Basin	D4	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	10-12	Easter weekend			
	19	Mt Brennan	D4	Peter Tchir	359-7440
	26	Ripple Ridge	C3	Robin Lidstone	825-4260
May	3	Koch Creek area	C3	Peter Jordan	352-5225
	10	Kootenay Joe Ridge	C3	Carl Johnson	354-4075

Destinations and dates: Many of the destinations given in the schedule are tentative. Access often changes during the winter , and snow conditions or avalanche hazard may require a change of destination. Most trips are on Sundays. "s" indicates a Saturday trip.

Trip classification: This year I have attempted to classify the trips according to strenuousness (A-E) and level of difficulty (1-5), as we do for summer trips. This classification is very approximate, as the difficulty of a trip will vary greatly depending on snow conditions.

A - easy (a short day, little elevation gain) B - fairly easy (a longer day or moderate elevation gain) C - average (a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D - strenuous (a long day, lots of elevation gain) E - very strenuous (participants are all champion triathletes who have to shred 10,000 vertical feet of powder a day).

1 - track skiing 2 - off-track light touring (suitable for cross-country touring skis) 3 - moderate back-country skiing (telemark or alpine touring skis and skins required, need some ability to turn) 4 - advanced back-country skiing (should be an intermediate or advanced telemarker, steep slopes and difficult route finding may be involved) 5 - technical winter climbing.

Avalanches: Many of the trips involve travel in terrain where there is some risk of avalanches. All participants should have taken an avalanche awareness course, and must carry an avalanche beacon and shovel. The club has Pieps for rent; ask the trip leader for details. If you want to take part in backcountry ski trips, it is highly recommended that you take an avalanche awareness course. Several courses are available in the early winter. See the October newsletter for details.

For more information phone the winter trips chairperson, Peter Jordan, at 352-5225.