

KMC  
Box 3195  
Castlegar, B.C.  
VIN 3H5

# KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Peter Macek  
S-7, C-10,  
Slocan Park YOG 2E0  
phone 226-7576  
fax c/ 352-6019

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1994**

Next deadline: Feb 20, 1994

This issue has the details on TWO events:

1. Hiking Camps. Application is on a first-paid, first-served basis, so don't hesitate too long (but don't forget to read the rest of your newsletter in your hurry to get to that part!)

2. General Mountaineering Course..

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Feb 5:** Mount Kirkup, Garth Thompson (362-7649)

**Feb 10:** Climbing Camp meeting. Fred Thiessen's. See below.

**Feb 13:** Koch Creek drainage, Peter Tchir (359-7440) Destination may change depending on what roads are ploughed.

Bannockburn  
7:30 a.m.  
Plebs

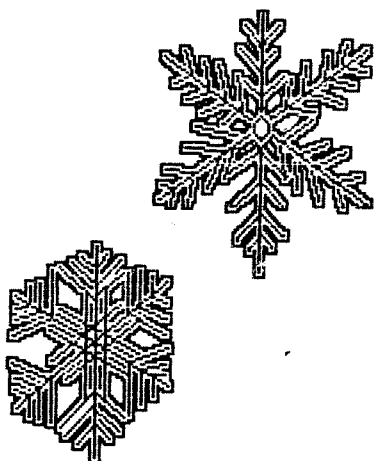
**Feb 20:** Kootenay Pass, Vivien Bowers (825-4392)

**Feb 27:** Five Mile Basin, Eric White (825-4392)

**Feb 28:** Executive meeting 7:30, at Ports in Castlegar. See below.

**Mar 5:** Mount Elise (Clearwater Creek drainage) Norman Thyer (352-5265)  
Touring will be up the road and then beyond if the conditions permit. **\*\*NOTE\*\*** The date has been changed from the Sunday!

**EXECUTIVE MEETING:** It has been decided to devote the next executive meeting (Feb 28) to a discussion of long-term objectives of the club, what sort of events the club should sponsor, etc. With this in mind, the most recent past presidents and a couple of the active younger members have been invited for their input. If you have any thoughts or contributions, either contact an executive member, or remember that all members are welcome to attend any executive meeting.



**CLIMBING CAMP UPDATE** The annual meeting to select the site of this year's climbing camp will be held on February 10. This date was chosen as it is both the night of the full moon and the Chinese New Year.

Location: Chez Thiessen, 2:00 (i.e. no-one would come if I had it at my place in the Valley). If you cannot attend but would like your fav' spot to be considered, give me a call at 359-7965 or call Freddie's on the night of the 10th (352-6140)

There will be a special prize if you can find the ultimate spot (good rock, glaciers, lots of close big peaks) in the Interior Mountains where Freddie hasn't been to yet.

Larry Smith

\*\*\*\*\*BITS AND PIECES\*\*\*\*\*

**KARABINER** Eddy wants your contributions. The deadline for submissions is the first of March, so let him know if you have been suppressing an upwelling of creative talent.

#### **ROAD REPORT**

**Snowwater/Rover Creek** road is no longer being ploughed  
**Porcupine Creek.** The road is ploughed, but Darkwoods F.P. claims it is being used seven days a week and has consistently refused to grant permission to use it.

**Bannockburn Creek** road will be used for logging and should be ploughed soon. Contact Dave Mitchell for details

**Kootenay Experience** has a map of currently skiable/drivable roads.

\*\*\*\*\*ADVERTISING\*\*\*\*\*

**FOR SALE:** Hierling Telemark boots, sizes 37 and 42. Phone Lee Schaeffer for details and to negotiate a price (365-7779)

**WANTED:** Partner wanted to go ice climbing in the Rockies. Lee Schaeffer (365-7779)

**POLITICAL ADVERTISING:** The executive received this ad and after due discussion, decided to run it, feeling somewhat flattered that our illustrious newsletter is such an influential opinion-shaper! The ad that follows is as received:

ELECT STUART WEINSTEIN, M.B.A: FEDERATION MEMBER

For Board of Directors of Mountain Equipment Co-op

More access to the outdoors for people with disabilities,

C.P.R./First Aid/Trail Medicine, & Recycle "functional" equipment.

1477 Eglinton Ave. W., Box#5, Tor., Ont., M6E 2G6, (416)256-4869

Read my mandate in next Co-op catalogue: Update your addresses.

Make your vote count: Send ballot in from your catalogue package.

Thank You!!!!!!

**TO GIVE AWAY** A large collection of back issues of SUMMIT magazine (1974-1992) and OFF BELAY (1974-1978) are available to a good home from John Carter.

**DON'T FORGET** that spring is coming and that copies of Hiking in the West Kootenay are available from John Carter (825-4306) for \$16.00.

## TRIP REPORTS

**December 19, 1993**

### **MOUNT ELISE**

The ski tour was to the previously unpicked (unannounced) Mt. Elise near the headwaters of Clearwater Creek. We were able to drive up Clearwater two days after the loggers had left, (little new snow in two days) to the 7.5km mark. We approached the summit from the northeast ridge and arrived in approximately 3 hours. A half hour stop was made en route to examine the snowpack. Sunny conditions provided good visibility and pleasant touring. Our descent brought us down the steep west ridge and partially around the bowl before we descended through great powder to the valley bottom. A pleasant ski through the trees and clearcut brought us back to the vehicles at around 2:45. Participants were: John & Robin Carter, Peter Jordan, Lee & Dwain Boyer, and Tom Van Alstine.

John Carter

**December 26, 1993**

### **COPPER MOUNTAIN**

We assembled on Highway 3 at 7:30, then drove to 5400' in Snowwater Creek where we parked in a turnout. From here we toured east into the Copper Mountain basin and up to the hut which took about two hours. After chocolates, we climbed the peak (and had more chocolates), took two runs and skied out. A pleasant day and good skiing. The snowpack is shallow so care is required.

We were 14 in total: The Ports (A, B, and S), V Bowers, F Thiessen, B McEwan, B Massot, G Staples, the Johnstons (A and T), M Hamilton, D Mitchell, R Baker, and Ramon.

Fred Thiessen

**January 2, 1994**

### **COPPER MOUNTAIN (II)**

The first K.M.C. outing for 1994 saw a group of skiers travel to the Copper Mountain Cabin, some for the third time that week. The travel up Snowwater Creek proved to be a challenge with some of us travelling in low range and with chains. The avalanche conditions were literally off the wall but fortunately they had come down before our arrival. Trail breakers had to utilize their relaxation techniques as the snowpack settled around them. We skied safely above the cabin, enjoyed plenty of fresh snow and great company to start a new year. We were Sue, Bert, Andrew and Brian Port, Eric White, Fred Thiessen, Roland Perrin, Peter Tchir, Bob Hawes, Curt Nixon, and Derek Marcou.

Roland Perrin

**January 9, 1994**

**KOOTENAY PASS**

Due to severe avalanche conditions and a road closure, only one other skier showed up. We went up to Ripple Ridge Cabin and had lunch with a couple of other skiers, and then over to Telemark Basin for a few runs. Due to the hazardous conditions, the touring area was very limited, so we returned to the highway by the Monk Creek Road.

Bob Hawes

**January 23, 1994**

**GOAT CREEK**

Starting from Retallack, it's possible to drive to about 3500 feet on the Goat Creek road. From there, it takes about 1½ hours skiing to get to the end of the road. The skiing potential of the area seems really good, although on Sunday the snow was too goopy to do very much. Participants were Peter McIvor, Fred Thiessen, Roland Perrin and Eric White.

Eric White

**Nov 15 - Dec 28**

**PATAGONIA - CHILE/ARGENTINA**

Lauren Waters and I went to Patagonia this fall to trek around Tierra del Fuego National Park, Torres del Paine National Park and Los Glaciares National Park.

Our first stop, though, was Peninsula Valdes in Argentina to check out the abundant wildlife in the area. Since it was spring in South America all the guanacos (llama-like), penguins, rheas (ostrich-like), whales, sea lions, etc. had young ones as well. (They were soooooooo cute!)

We continued down Argentina to Ushuaia where we went for a three (Montes Martial mini-circuit) in Tierra del Fuego. Although there was no trail, bushwacking was easy in the beech forest. This is also where we were introduced to the notorious Patagonia winds. On our way up to a pass we were bewildered by shirts, socks, and towels lying in the bush. When the wind flattened our tent and carried off a foamie, we understood how those clothes got deposited down the valley.

Our next stop was Torres del Paine National Park in Chile. We decided to go to Chile at this point in our trip because white gas is available in Chile. In Argentina we had to use kerosene which made the MSR Whisperlite unhappy. We did a twelve day trek in the park on excellent trails. The Cuernos del Paine and Torres del Paine were magnificent. The Cuernos ("horns") are unusual looking peaks with pink granite topped with black sedimentary rock. The Torres, on the other hand, are three impressive granite spires.

We ended our trip with twelve days in Los Glaciares National Park in Argentina. We had gorgeous weather and managed to see the famous Cerro Torre in clear blue sky. Knowing that this was a rarity, I went insane and shot 60 pictures in the area. The Fitz Roy group was impressive and visible much more often than Cerro Torre. We climbed Cerro Madsen (a bump in the scheme of things) and watched climbers climbing the east face of Fitz Roy.

If you are thinking about travelling to these areas of Patagonia and have any questions, please feel free to call me at 837-6662.

Rhonda Netzel, Revelstoke

## **KMC BASIC MOUNTAINEERING COURSE 1994**

This basic course is a general course intended for beginners. The course will include general aspects of wilderness travel, mountain hazards and safety, rock climbing, glacier travel, and crevasse rescue.

### **Schedule**

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Lectures      | April 14 & 19 at Selkirk College  |
| 2. Rock Climbing | May 4, 11, 14, 18, 22, at Kinnaird Bluffs, Castlegar                        |
| 3. Lecture       | June 1 at Selkirk College   |
| 4. Snow Practice | June 4 at Ymir Bowl   |
| 5. Snow & Ice    | June 11 & 12 at Glacier Creek (may have to change, depending on conditions) |
| Weekend          |   |

**Requirements** To take this course you should be:

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. A KMC member               | 2. 14 years of age minimum |
| 3. In good physical condition |                            |

### **Fees**

Club Membership:	Family	\$35.00
	Single	\$25.00
	Youth (14-18)	\$10.00

Course \$95.00 (includes rental of harness, helmet, ice-axe, crampons)  
(A deposit will be required for rental of equipment)

If you are interested in enrolling in this course, please complete the application form and send a cheque or money order payable to the Kootenay Mountaineering Club to: Ross Breakwell  
Box 83, Rossland, B.C. V0G 1Y0

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Ross at 362-5169

THERE IS A LIMITED ENROLLMENT

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS  
APRIL 3, 1994

------(cut here and mail with cheque)-----

### **Application for KMC Mountaineering Course (print)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_

I am prepared to sign a KMC Indemnity & Release of Liability at the first session.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Editor: Peter Macek  
S-7, C-10,  
Slocan Park V0G 2E0  
phone 226-7576  
fax c/ 352-6019

**MARCH 1994**

Next deadline: March 25, 1994

## SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE:

Climbing Camp information and application  
Summer Trips schedule

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**March 5:** Mount Elise (Clearwater Creek drainage) Norman Thyer (352-5265) Touring will be up the road and then beyond if the conditions permit. **\*\*NOTE\*\*** The date has been changed from the Sunday!

**March 13:** Location to be decided Trevor Holsworth (325-2641) / Kootenay Experience (354-4441). The destination has been changed because the SnowWater Creek road is no longer being ploughed and will be chosen based on snow conditions.

**March 20:** Old Glory, Dave Mitchell (354-4052 or 354-2065). Early start.

**March 27:** Koch Creek Drainage, Roland Perrin (352-5480) *London Ridge, 8am Retalack.*

**March 28:** Executive Meeting, Sue Knoerr's (365-7779) 7:30

**April 3:** Easter weekend, Dave Mitchell (354-4052 or 354-2065). It looks as if there is enough demand for a trip, so phone Dave to find out where it will go.

**April 3:** Brilliant Bluffs (Trail reconnaissance) A-1, Wendy Hurst (399-4157). First trip on the Summer Schedule!

APRIL 8: SPRING DINNER, Robson Hall 6:00

**April 10:** Koch Creek, Peter Jordan (352-5225)

**April 10:** Cabin construction, George Apel (365-7653)

**April 17:** Mount Brennan, Dave Mitchell (354-4052 or 354-2065). A long day trip with almost 2000m vertical

**April 17:** Sproule Creek A-1, Reid Henderson (352-2362)



## SPRING DINNER - April 8<sup>th</sup> at Robson Hall (First road after Fire Hall sign)

Come at 6:00pm, Guests are welcome. Bring a dish as suggested below and your own wine, etc. if you wish. Coffee and tea will be provided. Cost \$2.00 each towards Hall rental and coffee. Surnames beginning with:

- A - F please bring dessert
- G - J please bring salad
- K - Z please bring main dish

**Special Guest:** Our own professional photographer, Larry Doell, will give us a talk on capturing the perfect pictures in the mountains. He'll also have some of his selection of his always awesome slides.

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**The KMC Directors' meeting** of February 28 was a discussion of where the club should be going and whether there were problems we should be addressing. Fifteen people participated in a wide-ranging exploration, mostly around the idea that the KMC is not attracting the younger mountaineers. The trips we schedule do well, but it was acknowledged that most of them are hikes and that few harder climbing trips are being scheduled. There is a rapidly growing number of young rock climbers that are mostly coalescing around the Gravity Climbing Club, and that we should be encourage to join the KMC when they wish to make trips into the mountains. Possibilities that were mentioned included more active advertising, especially in ways that would target the younger or more transient person. Another suggestion was to sponsor guest speakers and shows out in the community in order to inspire more people and to get our name out more. In order to allow more flexibility into the Trips Schedule, the Newsletter could run a section with names of contact people who anyone can phone up to arrange impromptu trips. Also suggested was to schedule climbing weekends at some destination where small groups could hike or climb during the day and then socialize in the evening.

What do you think? Any thoughts or comments can be directed to any member of your executive or to the Newsletter. In the next couple of issues, I will write about some of the other discussion points that have come up.

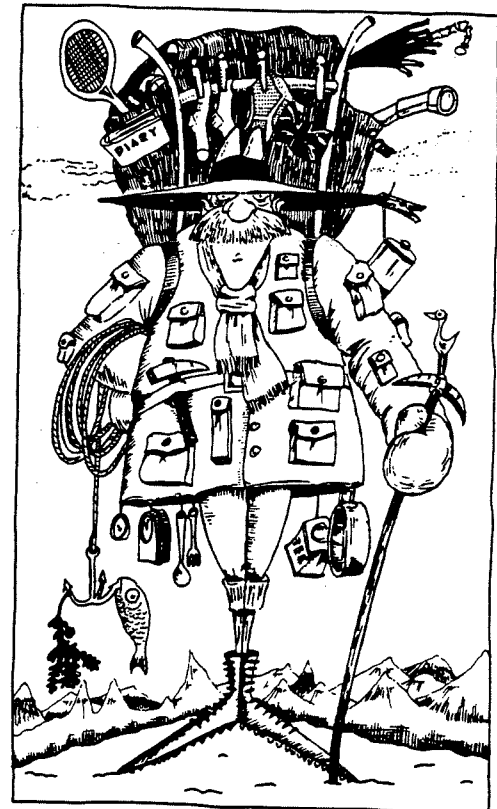
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### CONTACTS

Derek Marcoux (352-2576), Jeff Krueger (365-5886) are interested in weekend ski touring, rock climbing and general mountaineering. If you are also, phone one of them up and arrange an outing.

Eddy Szczerbinski (365-7842) is looking for mountain biking partners now, and a partner to cycle Canada this summer.

He is also looking for a partner (or several) to do a trip during Spring Break (March 18 - 27).



'It is impossible to praise these men too highly'

The Ascent of Hum Doodle

**DONATION RECEIVED:** A donation of \$250 was made by Trevor Holsworth from the proceeds from the sales of his guidebook, Cross Country and Ski Touring in the Kootenays. The money was earmarked by Trevor for cabin maintenance. This substantial donation is very much appreciated. Currently plans are going ahead for the construction of the final hut in the Bonnington Tour. If you are interested in participating, give George Apel a call at 365-7653.

Thanks, Trevor!

**FOR SALE:** Two ice axes, some Chouinard ice screws, and misc other gear. Phone Lee Schaeffer for details and to negotiate a price (365-7779).

**CLOSET CLEANOUT:** The Rossland-Warfield Search and Rescue (P.E.P.) would be interested in any serviceable climbing equipment or back country stuff that people might be willing to donate. 'Biners, helmets, used sling material, pins, snowshoes, etc. They would also be willing to purchase older style Pieps in good working order. Phone Brad Kryski 364-2954

A pack rat has started visiting the Huckleberry Hut. The hole will have to be plugged in the spring, but in the meantime, someone should take up a short handled broom with which to clean up.

## **TRIP REPORTS**

**January 16, 1993**

### **COPPER MOUNTAIN**

The road up Rover and SnowWater Creeks was in good shape. The original trip to Siwash Mountain was changed to Copper Mt. because of uncertainty of route and snow conditions. We took about 1 1/2 hours to the hut which had been used the previous three days by another party. They had left a note in the logbook saying that there was a bad hoar layer at about 50cm which made us cautious for the rest of the day.

From the hut we went towards the summit on the south ridge but high winds made us turn back for a ski run. The snow was very wind crusted on the ridges, a bit sun crusted on the south facing slopes, and good in the trees. When we got down to the hut level again, we decided to climb up on the west ridge for a run down. But once Lee got going there was no stopping him and we went right to the top of Copper. Fortunately, the wind had died down so we had a good view from the summit. We skied down the south ridge again.

On the way out we got a bit low by following the wrong tracks and had to climb about 15 minutes to get back to the Copper-Siwash col. We were back at the cars about 3:30. Our sense was that the avalanche hazard in the Copper Mt. hut basin was low.

Garth Thompson, Bob Hellman, Dwain Boyer, Lee Boyer, Peter Tchir.

Peter Tchir

**January 1994**

### **COPPER - RED - TOAD TRAVERSE**

Fred and several others had a successful ski trip to Copper/Red/Toad Mountains and faithfully wrote up the adventure. He then handed the disk containing this composition to your Newsletter Editor. Two things then happened. 1) I lost the disk, and 2) Fred, who trusts magnetic media and didn't make a copy, was very hazy as to where they went and what they did. My apologies.

Participants (among others, Fred was not sure) were Fred Thiessen, Eddy Szczerbinski, Roland Perrin, Viv Bowers, Peter McIver, Peter Jordan.



## 1994 CLIMBING CAMP

Hatteras Group JULY 23 - AUGUST 1

**LOCATION:** The Hatteras Group lies NW of the Bugaboos between Hatteras and Hume Creeks which are tributaries to the Duncan River. Major peaks include Hatteras (9650), Snowman Peak (8950), Krinkletop (9150), Sugarplum Spire (9350) and the Pirouette Pinnacles (8900). The climbing ranges from scrambles to 5th class granite with snow and glacier approaches. Opportunities for high camp exist near Deluge Mtn to the SE or Syncline Mtn. to the NE.

**MAP:** 82 K/14

**ACCESS:** To Meadow Creek north of Kaslo, then north on Duncan River forest roads for about 1.5 hours. Total driving time 3.0 hours from Nelson.

**COST:** \$450 (maximum). Deposit of \$50 to accompany application. Camp provides breakfasts, dinners, cook, eating utensils and flights. Participants supply own lunches, tents and climbing gear.

**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). Information on equipment, participants, meeting time, etc., will be sent out later, along with a waiver to be signed.

### 1993 CLIMBING CAMP APPLICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if 15-18) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

KMC  
Box 3195  
Castlegar, B.C.  
V1N 3H5

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**APRIL 1994**

Next deadline: April 25, 1994

## **SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE:**

Summary of last summer's trips

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- April 8:** Spring Dinner. See information on page 2
- April 10:** Koch Creek (ski touring), Peter Jordan (352-5225)
- April 10:** Cabin construction, George Apel (365-7653). This will be an in-town session of prefabricating and planning future construction. As many as possible are encouraged to come.
- April 17:** Mount Brennan (ski touring), Dave Mitchell (354-4052 or 354-2065). A long day trip with almost 2000m vertical. Some hiking will be involved to get up the road.
- April 17:** Sproule Creek (hike) A-1, Reid Henderson (352-2362)
- April 24:** Whitewater area (Ski touring), Howie Ridge (354-4909)
- April 24:** Selkirk College Trail (hike) A-1, Polly Samoyloff (365-6474)
- April 25:** KMC Directors meeting 7:30, John Walton's (365-6519)
- May 1:** Evans Creek Trail (hike) A-1, Anna Thyer (352-5265) A lakeshore hike with beaches and a beautiful waterfall.
- May 8:** Creston Wildlife Centre A-1, Susan Knoerr (365-7779). There are lots of birds, turtles, and mammals in the marshes at this time of year. A great introduction to spring.
- May 15:** Fry Creek B-1, Kathy Henderson (825-4357)
- May 21,22:** Garden Party Camp/ Dewdney Trail A-1, Dennis Sims (447-6132/359-7759)  
Details below.

KMC Membership: Individual - \$25.00, Couple/Family - \$35.00, Junior - \$10.00  
Send to: KMC Membership, Box 221, Rossland B.C., V0G 1Y0



**\*\*\* This Friday! \*\*\***

**SPRING DINNER - April 8<sup>th</sup>** at Robson Hall (First road after Fire Hall sign)

Come at 6:00pm, Guests are welcome. Bring a dish as suggested below and your own wine, etc. if you wish. Coffee and tea will be provided. Cost \$2.00 each towards Hall rental and coffee. Surnames beginning with:

A - F please bring dessert  
G - J please bring salad  
K - Z please bring main dish

**Special Guest:** Our own professional photographer, Larry Doell, will give us a talk on capturing the perfect pictures in the mountains. He'll also have some of his selection of his always awesome slides.

## Highlights of KMC Directors' meeting of March 28

- Continuing discussion about Club direction. It was decided that at the next meeting, each Director will address how he or she could make changes within their area of responsibility.

- **CORE.** John wanted some direction on two issues:

1. Should the boundaries of existing parks be negotiable? The integrity of parks could probably be improved by allowing some adding and subtracting. The general feeling was that this was probably okay.

2. In the general feeling that more land should be set aside, we and the loggers both want more rock and ice areas, whereas the environmental groups want more lowlands. The directors agreed that the aesthetics of the approaches are also important and that there probably is not much threat to our mountain areas, so we are open.

- Bonnington Range Cabin. Pope&Talbot have donated lumber and Forest Service has donated a chimney. Sites are available and the best one will be chosen when there is less snow. Work is progressing and momentum is gathering for the summer construction season.
- Hiking camps are all full and about 15 names are on the waiting list. See article below.
- Friends of West Kootenay Parks made a presentation about their plans to rebuild the Silver Spray Cabin. This would happen this summer if funding is obtained.

### Further discussion from the February 28 Directors' meeting

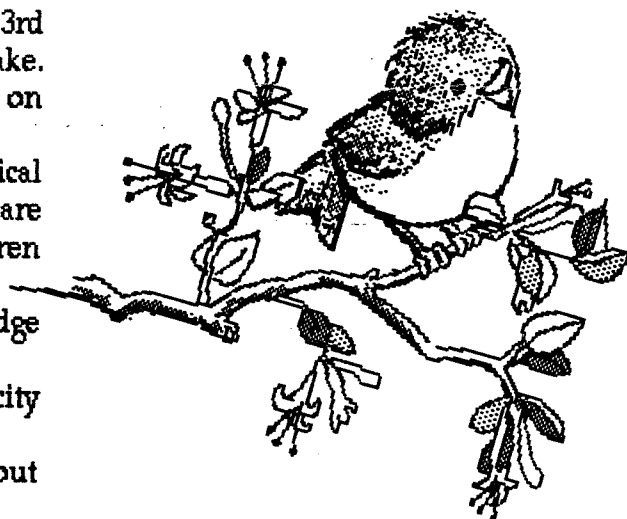
There were two concrete ideas about trips. One was that there is a certain momentum that develops at the Mountaineering School. We get enthusiastic, fledgling mountaineers that are ready to carry on to more trips. Perhaps the club should make a conscious effort to schedule follow-up trips so that the graduates maintain their momentum and, one hopes, join the KMC. The other I mentioned last month, that of the Climbing Weekend. The idea behind this suggestion was a sort of mini-camp, with a designated camp area from which small, informal trips of various degrees of difficulty could set out each morning. This format would require minimal organization and yet would allow socializing and the sharing of experiences while permitting small groups to go out. Obviously three day weekends would be best, but possibly a good location could be found for a two day outing.

A related topic was about trail work parties. It was felt that the Mulvey Basin trail was a strong catalyst for the original formation of the KMC. Should there be more emphasis on projects like this? Recently there have been poor turnouts for work parties and there is contention as to what kind of projects are appropriate (some areas shouldn't have trails, some work would hurt private contractors, etc.)

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Eddy Szczerbinski (365-7842) is looking for mountain biking partners now, and a partner to cycle Canada this summer.

•••••



**Has anyone seen Fred Becky (sic)...**

Apparently, this has happened to the KMC in the past, and it is the contractor (us) who pays rather than the helicopter company, so I guess we should consider ourselves warned.

Contact Laurie Charlton (362-9461) with your ideas for next year.

- Garth Thomson (362-7649), Treasurer
- Laurie Charlton (362-9461), Hiking Camp
- Elaine Martin (367-7335), Social
- Ross Breakwell (367-6243), Mtn. School
- Peter Macek (226-7576), Newsletter
- Larry Smith (359-7965), Climbing Camp
- Bob Dean (359-7759), Summer Trips

## **Snow Survey**

For those who are not aware of it, the KMC conducts a Snow Survey at a site near Record Mountain near Rossland, for the Water Management Branch of the BC Environment Ministry. Snow depth and density are measured at the site eight times through the winter and spring. The results are submitted to the water management system to provide information on the snowpack throughout BC for use in water resource planning. In the winter, the approach is a piece of cake - you take the Granite chair lift. After it closes in April, however, you have to climb to the site. Anyone interested in participating in the survey should contact Garth Thomson(362-7649)

## **TRIP REPORTS**

### **ROSSLAND RANGE: GRANITE MOUNTAIN TO HANNA CREEK**

**February 5, 1994**

This was advertised as a trip to Mount Kirkup, but with reports of a shortage of snow on the north side of Kirkup, we travelled the ridge running north from Squaw Basin(just west of Kirkup) and skied down the west facing side of the ridge. There are narrow glades through the trees and the snow varied from soft powder to a thin sun crust - more suited to full-line short turn skiing than wide-sweeping telemarks. Working our way along the ridge we reached the old logging road down to Hanna Creek. The logging road was skied out so we kept to the trees and enjoyed more powder. It made a good day's outing but this area is now so heavily travelled by ski-tourers from the Red Mountain Ski area that it has lost its appeal as a back country trip.

We were only 3: Alan Baker, Don Olsen, Garth Thomson

Garth Thomson

**March 20, 1994**

### **Mount Plewman (2240 metres)**

**"Where did you find these guys?"**

That was the question that Ian McCammon from Salt Lake City asked when he saw his fellow skiers doing jet-turns through the trees. It's not that he was any slouch on skis himself. Seven of us were destined for Old Glory. The weather looked as if it might be a glorious sunny day, but ended up as snow and wind. The early start I promised was 8:15. We went up the Hanna Creek Road from the layby on Highway 3B, and then up the Old Glory hiking trail. At the alpine we set out to cross Unnecessary Ridge, but ended up at the summit of Plewman. Route finding was proving less than ideal in the clouds and icy south faces. Old Glory was at least two hours away, so we skied Plewman Basin a couple of times as a consolation prize. The snow was perfect. Even skiing through the trees there was no breakable crust or any of the other crudities normally found at this time of year. Perhaps it was the prospect of jugs of Canterbury Ale at the Flying Steam Shovel that encouraged everyone to ski so fast on the way down. No injuries were sustained.

We were: Don Olsen, Robin Lidstone, Rick Baker(the three engineers), Thom Volpatti, Tom Johnston, Ian McCammon, and David Mitchell.

Dave Mitchell

K.M.C. 1993 Summer Trips Report		Rating	Party Size
May	2 Slocan Lake Trail	A-1	9
	9 Grohman Creek	A-1	19
	16 HIKE BC Merry Creek Trail	A-1	32
	23 Half Dome B-1 / Ymir Mt	B-2	13
	30 Marble Lake	B-1	16
June	5 (Sat) Old Glory -> changed to Record Mt	B-1	6
	6 Mt Baldy	AB-2	9
	13 Copper Mt	AB-1	18
	19 (Sat) Slocan Chief Cabin	B-1	16
	20 Gladstone Mtn	B-2	17
	26 (Sat) Gwillim Lakes	B-1	9
	27 Mt Cornfield	B-2	6
July	1 (Thurs) Gimli Pk	B-2.5	10
	3,4 New Denver Glacier	B-2	4 ?
	4 Ross Lk B-1 / White Swan Lk -> Outlook Mt	B-2	6
	7 (Wed) Arlington Pk / Mt Ruppel	B-2	7
	10,11 Wolf Mt -> Waldie Lk Ridge	B-2	4
	11 Satisfaction Pk -> Panther Lk Ridge	B-2	5
	14 (Wed) Airy Mt	B-2	10
	17,18 TeePee Camp	A-1	11
	17,18 Eyebrow Pk C-3 -> Snowcrest	B-2	8 ?
	18 Porcupine 2 / Roxy My	B-2	9
	21 (Wed) Insect Pk B-2 -> Brilliant Bluffs	B-2	8
	24,25 Fisher Peak (Cranbrook)	B-2	6 ?
	25 Sapphire Lakes	B-1	13
	28 (Wed) Baker Lk / Burdette Pk	B-2	cancelled
July	31 (Sat) Lasca Cr Trail	B-1	11
Aug	1,2 (Civic Holiday) (3 days) Tetons	C-4	cancelled
	2 (Mon) Siwash Mt	B-2	5
	4 (Wed) Little Drinnon -> Black Prince	B-2	4
	7 (Sat) Idaho Lookout	A-1	11
	8 cont to Mt Serrie B-2 -> Blue Grouse Basin	B-2	5
	8 Asgard Pk	C-2	11
	11 (Wed) Silver Spray B-1 / Mt McQuarrie	B-2	6
	14,15 Glacier View Pk	C-3	cancelled
	15 Hilda Pk	B-2	cancelled
	18 (Wed) Paddy Pk	B-2	6
	21,22 Pinnacle Peaks	B-2.5	cancelled
	22 Joker Lakes A-1 / Mt Kane	B-2.5	17
	25 (Wed) Haystack Pk B-2 -> Frog/Airy Ridge	B-2	6
	28,29 Woodbury Cabin	B-1	cancelled
	29 Mt Brennan	C-2	8
Sept	5,6 Mt Tsar	C-3	cancelled
	5 Gwillim Lakes A-1 / Lucifer Pk	B-2	28
	11 (Sat) Kootenay Joe	B-1	cancelled
	12 Wolf Lake / The Three Sisters	B-2	6
	18 (Sat) Paradise Valley Trail	B-1	cancelled
	18,19 Monica Meadows	B-2	10
	19 Slocan Chief Cabin -> Sapphire Lks	B-1	13
	25 (Sat) Dominion Mt	B-2	5
	26 Titei Pk	B-2	11
	26 Whitewater Mt	C-3	cancelled
Oct	3 Valhallas	B-2	7
	10 McKean Lakes A-1 / Woden Pk	B-2	31
	17 Redfish Summit	B-2	9
	24 Grassy Mt	B-2	17
	31 Tanal Lake	A-1	9
Nov	7 Berry Mtn	A-1	8
	14 Yellow Pine Trail	A-1	13
	21 Brilliant Bluffs	A-1	7
	28 Pulpit Rock	A-1	cancelled
Number of trips scheduled - 61 Carried out - 50			
Average size of party (for trips carried out) .. 10.1			

# KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Peter Macek  
S-7, C-10,  
Slocan Park V0G 2E0  
phone 226-7576  
fax c/ 352-6019

**MAY 1994**

Next deadline: May 25, 1994

## SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE:

Dave Mitchell has put together some pointers on climbing safety. Very timely in light of the recent unfortunate death of Eazy Engleman at Kinnaird Bluffs

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**May 8:** Creston Wildlife Centre A-1, Susan Knoerr (365-7779). There are lots of birds, turtles, and mammals in the marshes at this time of year. A great introduction to spring.

**May 14 (Saturday):** Fry Creek B-1, Kathy Henderson (825-4357) \*\*\* Note\*\*\* This is a change from the scheduled Sunday date!

**May 21, 22:** Garden Party Camp/ Dewdney Trail A-1, Dennis Sims (447-6132/359-7759)  
Details in last month's newsletter.

**May 29:** Kokanee Peak B-2, Mike Brewster (352-5666)

**June 4 (Saturday):** Russell Creek Lookout A-1, Ray Kosiancic (359-7793)

**June 5:** Lost Lake A-1 / Commonwealth Mt B-2, Bob Dean (359-7759) \*\*\* Note\*\*\*  
Change in contact person

**June 11, 12:** Castle Mountain (Rockies) B-4, Paul Allen (362-5832)

**June 12:** Airy Ridge (via Norns) B-2, John Stewart (352-3273)

**Editor's Note:** I will be away for the next couple of months, so the next issue will be put out by your very capable ex-Editor, Vivien Bowers, at 825-4392 for phone or fax. Please send all your articles, etc to her for the June issue, and then I will be back to put out the one after that around the end of July.





## **EAZY ENGLEMAN Memorial Fund**

FOR THOSE WHO ARE FRIENDS OF EAZY'S AND OF THE OUTDOORS, A MEMORIAL FUND HAS BEEN SET UP IN HIS HONOUR.

THIS FUND, IT IS HOPED, WILL BE USED TO ASSIST WITH THE PURCHASE OF THE KINNAIRD BLUFFS CLIMBING AREA. IT HAS LONG BEEN THE HOPE OF LOCAL CLIMBERS THAT THIS AREA AND THE ACCESS TO IT BE MAINTAINED AS A TRAINING GROUND. THERE HAS BEEN TALK OF TURNING THIS AREA INTO A PARK.

THIS FUND HAS BEEN SET UP WITH ALL LOCAL CREDIT UNIONS (KSCU, CASTLEGAR SAVINGS CREDIT UNION, NELSON AND DISTRICT CREDIT UNION, AND ROSSLAND CREDIT UNION).

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REMEMBER THE BIG GUY IN THIS MANNER PLEASE VISIT ONE OF YOUR LOCAL CREDIT UNIONS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER YOUR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT JIM ROSS AT 354-4452, PIERRE KAUFMANN AT 226-7968, OR GORD LINDSAY AT 362-9670

**The KMC** has been talking to the owners of the Kinnaird Bluffs property and at the Directors meeting, a formal committee was struck to negotiate the purchase of the bluffs and access. The committee consists of Bert Port, Peter McIver, and Eddy Szczerbinski. KMC has been in touch with the group organizing the Memorial Fund and all concerned are happy to combine efforts to secure the land. The intent is to turn the Bluffs over to some government agency, the preferred model being the Stawamus Chief Provincial Climbing Park

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### **Spring Dinner - April 8**

The Spring Dinner was very successful, with about 60 people enjoying the delicious and varied dishes and each other's company. There were many difficult decisions: whether to carry on a conversation or to break to get seconds, how many dishes to sample this time, cake and pie?

After supper, Larry Doell gave an illustrated talk about how to take better photographs, which was witty and interesting. People I've talked to agreed that Larry's format of "Here is another photograph of the same scene with — different, you decide which you prefer" made us more aware of what the choices and trade-offs are. With 60 photographers and critics as the audience, we can hope some of the awareness will stay with us and give pause when we are about to take just another snapshot.

Thanks, Elaine, for organizing the evening, Larry for your time and effort, and to the cooks, set-up assistants and dishwashers - hey, that covers all of us doesn't it? -ed

## Highlights of KMC Directors' meeting of April 25

I've scattered items from the meeting throughout the newsletter this time, but let's see what other gems there were...

**Hiking / Climbing Camp Update.** The Hiking Camp has a waiting list and the Climbing Camp still has some room. If anyone is interested in doing the organizing, the Climbing Camp gear will be in Hatteras Creek at the end of the camp and the chopper will already be shuttling people. It is a great opportunity, especially those that couldn't get into Hiking Camp, to use the gear and the helicopter availability to set up another camp. Contact Larry Smith (359-7965) if you are interested.

In an attempt to shed its alleged 'elitist' image, the Climbing Camp will be changing its name to Mountaineering Camp and acknowledging that, in fact, most of the climbs are not death-defying epics up overhanging crumbling shale walls. Larry explained to the other directors that actually the major difference between the two camps is the lack of stools to sit on and that the day's outing are more self-organized. He also points out that although the camp is more expensive, it is also longer, ending on the holiday Monday.

**Karabiner.** Next year, there will be an Editorial Board to help out the Editor. (Are any of you faithful readers interested?) After some discussion, it was decided to keep on a yearly publication schedule, although there are clubs similar to ours that publish every two years (for example the BC Mountaineering Club)

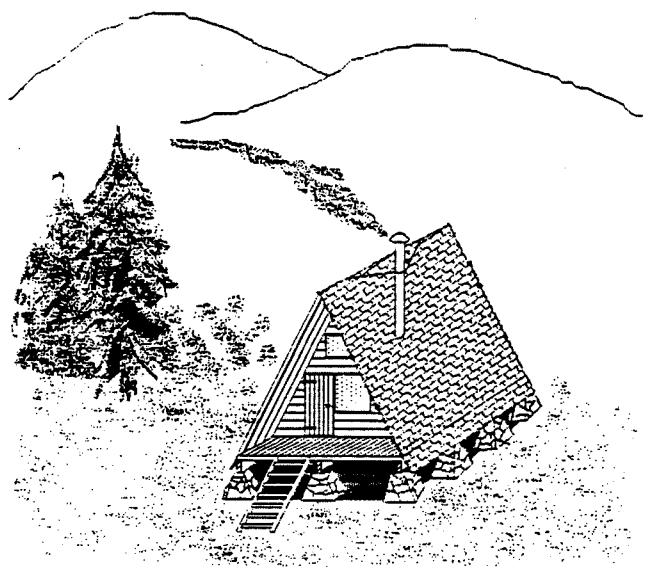
**Summer Schedule.** It was felt that there should be a definite effort made to schedule appropriate trips to follow the completion of the yearly Mountaineering Course, so that graduates would be encouraged to carry on their new-found skills. It was also felt to be valuable to have an introductory Friday evening lecture / Saturday hike mini-course at the beginning of the season for hikers.

**Social.** The club will try sponsoring speakers on a regular basis.

**BONNINGTON RANGE CABIN UPDATE:** On April 10, the Cabin work party in my (George Apel's) garage went very well. The sawdust flew and most materials (not individuals!) were cut in three hours. The next work party will be scheduled soon. If you are interested (The work parties are short), please call me at 365-7653. Those present this time: Drew Desjardins, Brian Gagnon, Hans Korn, Sue Knoerr, Bert Port, Brian Port, Ed Szczerbinski, George Apel.

At the Directors meeting on April 25, it was decided to give \$1000 to the Bonnington Range Cabin on behalf of the Hamilton-Steed Memorial Fund. There will be a plaque made for the cabin.

George also reported that he has been getting donations of materials for the cabin. The latest was the bolts required to hold the frames together, donated by BC Hydro. All very much appreciated.



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...excerpts from **FRESH AIR** (Feb-March 1994 issue). This is the newsletter of the Outdoor Recreation Sectors in the CORE Process.

**WEST KOOTENAY REGION...** The Table met in Revelstoke Feb 5-7, Nelson March 3-5, and in Rossland April 7-9. The last meeting is scheduled for Grand Forks on May 26-28.

"The Revelstoke meeting was devoted to completing trial negotiations. The Trial Run Scenario called for 18 percent of the land to be protected and 24 percent to be designated Special Management Land. The government support team produced a Trial Run Impacts Statement for the Nelson meeting. This very rough preliminary assessment showed some loss in direct and indirect forestry jobs if the scenario were to come into effect immediately and if nothing was done to provide replacement jobs. Only qualitative statements were provided for positive impacts on biodiversity, recreation and tourism."

"At the Nelson meeting, negotiations were resumed. This time they were for real. The recognition of this brought retrenchment on all sides. Negotiation continued, but more slowly and carefully than before."

"Map-based negotiations to build a real case scenario was undertaken by two groups working concurrently, one for the North and one for the South of the Region. The South group made progress, but the North group did not. It became stuck from the start and displayed little energy for developing options. Some participants observed that the Forest Majors sector was most cooperative in the South, in the Boundary area, and least cooperative in the North, in the Revelstoke area."

For more information, contact John Beerbower at phone/fax 229-5212, our representative for the Non-Mechanized Sector. I understand that interested, hitherto uninvolved observers are welcome to attend, so think about adding your support at the Grand Forks meeting.

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#### CONTACTS

Derek Marcoux (352-2576), Jeff Krueger (365-5886) are interested in weekend ski touring, rock climbing and general mountaineering. If you are also, phone one of them up and arrange an outing.

Eddy Szczerbinski has a change of address:  
526 10th Avenue, Castlegar V1N 1K7  
(365-5584)

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## **TRIP REPORTS**

**Agente reminder:** These trip reports are written by YOU! If you lead a trip, it is your responsibility to send a report to the Newsletter. Even trips that you don't consider particularly significant may inspire or inform someone else, so please keep those compositions coming in.

**April 17, 1994**

### **PULPIT ROCK AND BEYOND**

The scheduled hike was Sproule Creek Trail. Having obtained unanimous consent from signed up hikers the night before - due to deep, soft snow - the location was changed to Pulpit Rock and Beyond.

Ten of us left the parking lot on Johnstone Road at 11:00 a.m. We snacked/lunched at "the Rock" at noon for 15 minutes. Here we picked up two more hikers to make an even dozen. The next hour or so was spent hiking up the trail to the "dome" of Mt. Nelson, commonly known as Elephant Mountain. The foliage was just starting to green up; the sweet fragrance of Cottonwood buds in the air, flowers blooming bluebells, yellow Tiger Lillies, yellow and white Daisies and a white flower with pink veins. (I'm not a horticulturalist!)

At the top we were treated to a:

- shoulder massage (Christine)
- threat of a snowball Fight (Erik & Brian)
- fashion show (Bob)
- game of "look where I found a wood tick" (Bob, Drew & Rita)

Weather was super: sunny and warm at a balmy 25° C.

The view was great overlooking the City of Nelson, Kootenay River and south towards Toad Mountain. We left the "dome" at 2:00 p.m., veered to the right at "the Rock" and followed a new trail to Grohman Creek Road. We were back at the parking lot by 3:30 p.m.

The fabulous company were:

Drew Desjardins	Erik Frebold	Rita Luft	Margaret Taylor
JoAnne Baldassi	Haz Arnold	BobDean	Christina Sutherland
Linda Henderson	Brian Freemantle	Leslie Gamble	
		Reid Henderson	

**April 17, 1994**

### **MOUNT BRENNAN (2885 m)**

There were sixteen people willing to slog up to the top of this mountain. Some of us took 7 hours to get to the top. The question was why? It certainly wasn't for the lovely snow. The ski down was through heavy isothermal slush and avalanche debris. Maybe this is a trip for people who have something to prove. What that is, I couldn't say. Even though I was supposed to be the leader, I was the biggest tail-dragger of the day. Last up, last down! Some people said I was being a good leader by doing a sweep. Thanks! However, the weather was pretty good as the day progressed. That in itself is notable for Mount Brennan in April.

We were Dwayne Boyer, Carl Johnson, Roland Perrin, Andre Zimmerman, Dave Horner, Jim Wood, Peter McIver, Sue and Bert Port, Thom Volpatti (who drove from Rossland at some ungodly hour), Vivien Bowers, Peter Tchir, Me and some others whose last names I don't know, but whose first names are Ramen and Shirley (the Power Bar people) and Sandy (who was very quick).

Dave Mitchell

April 1-3, 1994

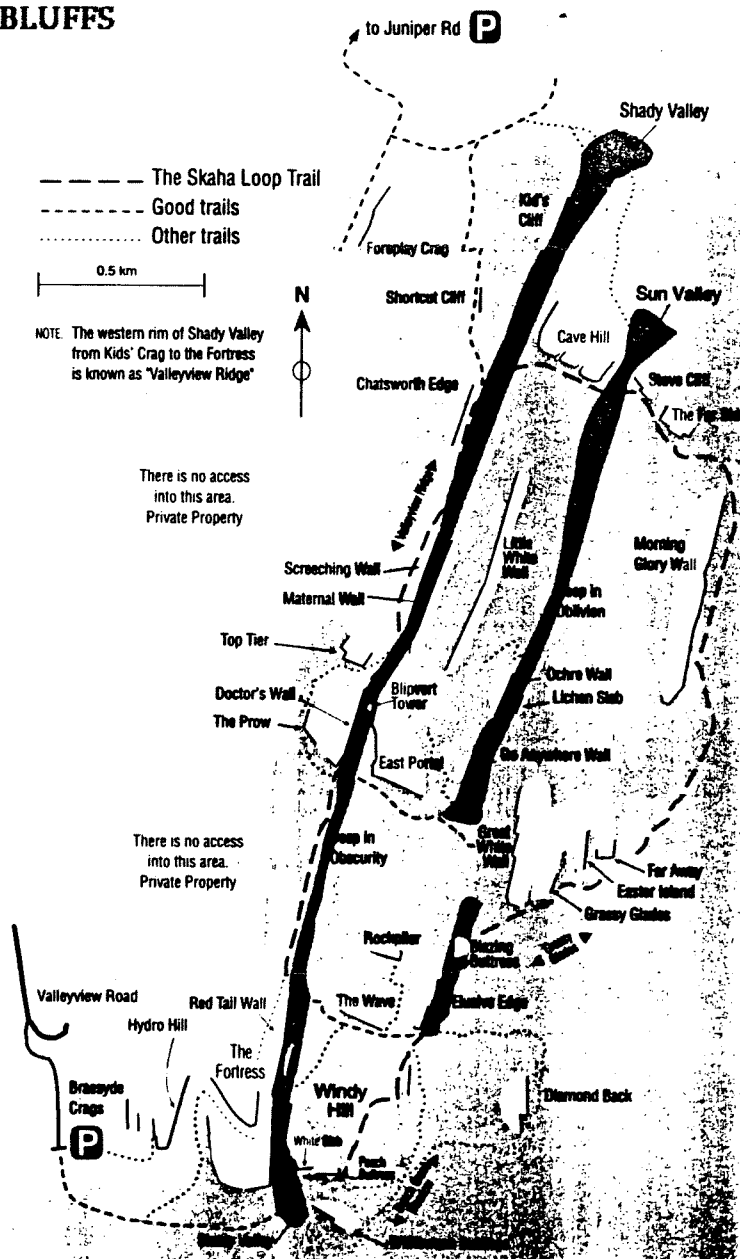
## SKAHA BLUFFS

Great White Wall. The Fortress. Blazing Buttress. 280 routes in the guidebook with another 180 ready to go into the first revision. It seemed as if the Skaha Bluffs would be a great place for an Easter outing. Nearby Okanagan Falls has a pleasant provincial campground, and it is halfway to the Coast, perfect for a rendezvous with friends. The Bluffs overlook Skaha Lake and Penticton, and comprise a series of granitic (gneiss, actually) outcrops separated by treed little valleys. Even in the heat of the summer, there must be pleasantly cool routes to climb. The area is HUGE - there were probably 40 cars in the parking lot the day we were there and yet we never had climbers anywhere near us all day. The rock is highly textured and little knobs and pockets, and the occasional crack make the climbing interesting. The routes range from short (great for top roping) to about three leads long and 5.5 to 5.12c. Some are really aesthetic - beautiful, clean buttresses, great views and set amid pine forests and grasslands. We had a fun time, finding routes to encourage and challenge the young and older both. Trevor at Kootenay Experience has the guidebook.

On the Saturday, we did a mountain bike descent from Chute Lake to Naramata 35km away, along the old Kettle Valley Railway grade. The surface is good (where there wasn't snow) and you can't beat a 22% downgrade for effortless sightseeing. The highlight was a wonderful 0.5 km long horseshoe shaped tunnel - pitch black inside with huge ice stalactites. (Be warned - there are 8 foot high barricades at either end to hoist the bikes over)

We were the Maceks(Peter,Nancy,Alan,Ian) and Prices(Rick,Sara)

Peter Macek



## A Calculated Risk

By now, most people in the area have heard about the fatality at the Kinnaird Bluffs. Easy Engleman fell 40 m to his death in a climbing accident April 11. Rumours abound about what happened. From a discussion with the RCMP, we know that he fell without protection. There was no equipment failure. His partner was inexperienced, and was not able to analyze the accident the way a more experienced partner might.

About 75 to 80% of all accidents, whether they involve a car crash, falling from a chair in the kitchen or falling from a rock face, involve unsafe acts, not unsafe conditions. This surprises people because we are always assuming that if we check our equipment, and it works well, we'll be safe. Bad judgment is most common root cause of any accident.

Over 90% of accidents and 80% of the fatalities sustained during climbing are preventable. This is according to Jim Onegena writing in the 1993 Canadian Alpine Journal. Time and time again, the following are the causes.

- *Lack of proper instruction and Ignorance* Lots of people learn from a friend or someone who has not been well instructed themselves. If someone offers advice or suggestions, consider what they are saying. Keep an open mind. How many people have actually studied the art of belaying? It is a skill and an important one. Take the KMC mountaineering course. Borrow a book or a video from the KMC library. Do whatever to keep learning about the techniques.
- *Complacency* Call your signals. How many times have you forgotten to call "On Belay" or "Climbing." It may seem silly after a while, but consider this. Air travel is much safer than travel by automobile. What is one of the first things that the flight attendants do before the plane takes off? The safety routine is explained time and time again. Is it coincidence that air travel is quite safe? Keep checking yourself and your partner. The safety aspects of the routine should be automatic. Don't be embarrassed because other climbers ignore these simple calls. Pride as well as complacency can be fatal.
- *Distraction* Ignore the spandex on those nice butts of the opposite sex! Of course your feet hurt. They are supposed to hurt. Pay attention to the route and your partner whether you are climbing and especially when you are on belay.
- *Overconfidence* Many people are learning to climb in the controlled environment of a climbing gym. It's a good place to go on a rainy day. The holds are all obvious. But those are two of the very reason that a 5.12 indoors bears little resemblance to 5.12 outside. It rains in the mountains. The holds are not so obvious. Frost and other environmental factors can turn a jug-handle into a lethal hold. Going from an indoor climbing wall to a rock face outside can be a humbling experience. Carry some humility in your pack with your climbing gear. Humility can keep you alive.

There are countless other individual factors that lead to accidents. Avoiding one is not simply in what you do, it is having the right attitude about how you do it.

David Mitchell

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# KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Peter Macek  
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Slocan Park V0G 2E0  
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JUNE 1994

## CHANGES TO TRIP SCHEDULE

Please refer to your Summer Trips Schedule for the numerous trips coming up in the next month. There are a couple of changes, as noted below:

June 29 (Wed) Crawford Creek Headwaters B-2 Janice Isaac can't lead this trip.  
**Bob Dean (359-7759) will lead a trip into Kokanee Park instead.**

July 9 (Sat) Record Ridge B-1 Garth Thomson 362-7649  
**Garth has postponed this trip two weeks, to July 23rd.**

Note: Paul Allen's June 11-12 trip to Castle Mountain was also postponed to give his ankle time to recover from injury.

## TRIP REPORTS

**March 30, 1994**

### **Buchanan Lookout**

I had often seen Buchanan Lookout above Kaslo, but never been up there. However, I once met a Kaslo resident who told me it was possible to ski up there.

On 30 March, 1994, in a spell of weather find and settled enough to justify driving that far, David Cunningham and I decided to try doing that. Arriving at the bottom of the Buchanan Lookout road at 0930, we found it snow covered right down to the highway. Carrying our skis at first, we were hopeful for a good run down in the afternoon, until, after half an hour, we joined another road that had been ploughed. We continued nevertheless, and after a further half hour, the snow-covered Buchanan Road branched off the ploughed one, and we could put on our skis.

Henceforth, there appeared to be no routefinding problems as the road zig-zagged up to the ridge, with the lookout tower visible to the east. But when a switchback took us on top of the ridge and away from the tower, we suspected something was wrong. We hadn't noticed any branch in the road, but went back to look for one anyway. Eventually, after retreating a way below the ridge, we found an inconspicuous second road branching off below us in a clearing. A dark object just breaking through the snow surface proved to be the top of a signpost.

This was a classic example of where the "obvious" route was the wrong one, and the mistake must have delayed us an hour. It was 1500 when we reached the lookout, and we wanted to get

cont.. →



down before a crust formed on the snow, so we didn't have time to enjoy the view fully. The road was steep enough to require braking much of the way, and the descent took us 2 1/2 hours including half an hour walking along the ploughed road, through a strong, expert skier could have done it much faster.

Buchanan Lookout makes a worthwhile trip in good weather. Expect to climb about 3900 ft/1200 m over 11 km.

Norman Thyer

**May 1, 1994**

### **Evans Creek**

As a leader of a trip, I made two discoveries: one, that I'd forgotten about leading the trip when someone called me up a week ahead, and two, that I could split the list into two parts, new people who signed up early, and "old members" who called Saturday evening and then only maybe! Although the weather did not look very promising at 8am when 17 of us met at the Playmor junction, it turned out to be an almost perfect day, not too hot, not too cold. Everyone walked to the Evan's Creek waterfall, and two new members, "led on" by Bob Dean, went about 3 km past there, while the rest of us "rested" at the beach. On the several open slopes we were delighted to see paintbrush, shooting star, calypso orchids and larkspur along with other flowers, plus numerous species of mosses and lichens in the woods. Again, this turned out to be a successful trip.

Anna Thyer

**May 8, 1994**

### **Creston Wildlife Sanctuary**

Ten of us set off on a beautiful Sunday morning from Summit Campground. We followed the Dewdney Trail for about 2 1/2 hours then lost it. We found our way through the bush following recent evidence of a bear to the edge of the lagoon. We lunched along the lagoon watching the birds. After lunch we followed the dike back to reach the cars at three. There were lots of flowers along the trail including striped coral root.

The hike included: Jane Steed, Roy and Gloria Hopland, Jan Micklewaithe, Drew Desjardins, Garth Thompson, Joanne Baldassi, and Bruce and Kathy Bourdon.

Susan Knoerr

**May 14, 1994**

### **Fry Creek Canyon**

There were 20 of us on this trip. Colleen, Bob and Kevin canoed across the lake from Schroeder Creek to Fry Creek beach (one hour canoe) and walked up the trail. Two rather energetic people did a trail run up the canyon! Good going, Penny and Robin! The rest of us left the trail head at 9:00 A.M. and walked along at various paces. We lunched and snacked on the beach at the far side of the rock slide - several in the group spotted goats at the top of the rock slide. Seven of us continued on along the trail to the Carney Creek/Road - Fry Creek confluence and finished our lunches while soaking up some of the sun before heading back down. The trail beyond the rock slide area is not clearly defined but if you keep the creek within hearing distance you'll do fine. Round trip, including an hour's break for lunch, took about seven hours traveling at a moderate pace.

The weather was perfect and a good day was enjoyed by all.

We were: M. Poohachoff, J. Micklethwaite, B. Freemantle, D. Desjardins, M. Kunashko, K. Gattner, M. Woodward, C. Shields, N. Sinclair, J. Cunningham, R. Belczyk, R. Lidstone, P. Lidstone, K. Forsyth, C. Gilead, B. Hellman, B. Parent, S. Loomans, D. Hagen and K. Hendren.

Kathy Hendren



**June 4, 1994**

**Russel Mtn**

Saturday June 4 and the time to meet was (:) AM at the Kootenay Savings Credit Union at South Slocan. Joanne Baldassi from Rossland was suffering from cabin fever, and a wet hike would cure that. Alan Baker was waiting quietly in his Subaru, but did hesitate to drive through the 100 deep water ditches that we would encounter on the logging road. Mary Martin was cheerfully waiting with her ski pole, and all three were willing to trust the fearless leader driving his John Deer 4X4. The forecast was mixed: how can the weather person be wrong? Well, it rained all day in a cloud shrouded valley.

The old B.C. Forestry Lookout was a most welcomed shelter for our lunch, and also sharing the same peak is a B.C. Hydro Anprdome housing a communication system.

There was still a couple of feet of snow on the north side, and we did return to our vehicle wet, but also with the feeling of some accomplishment.

Ray Kay (Kosiancic), "The Poor Farmer"

## **Hiking Camp Impact Study?**

The KMC has an opportunity to sponsor a study on the impact of our summer hiking camps on the alpine environment. The study will be done by the UBC Geography Department and will involve visits to most of our campsites for the last 10-12 years. It is hoped that the work can be done during the summers of 1995 and 1996. Funds need to be raised to cover the costs of the study. It is expected that the money will come from organizations such as BC Parks, Parks Canada, the Alpine Club of Canada, etc. If anyone is interested in helping to contact these and other groups, please contact Laurie Charlton at 362-9461.

### **IN MEMORIUM**

Word has come to us of the recent death of Don Mousel of Reno, Nevada. Don was a member for quite a few years and many have enjoyed his companionship at past hiking camps. Our sympathy goes out to his wife Carol and her sister Naomi Lindstrom.

## **A Hiking Camp Proposal**

[More fuel for the discussion concerning how to determine who gets to go to hiking camp.]

### ***Need for a Hiking Camp waiting list criteria?***

Are our hiking camps about to become victims of their popularity? Every year there are more KMCers who are unable to get into one of the camps and this year the situation has been worse than before with registrations before many members (including the camps chairman) even received their KMC newsletters in the mail. It is a problem, one of supply and demand, and one of the ways of dealing with it is by establishing a priority booking system.

This can work as follows:

1- In the first week or two after mailing out the registrations we will accept only registrations from those members who have contributed a certain amount of volunteer efforts for the KMC. The type, amount and duration of volunteer contributions can be specified by a committee of the executive.

2- After one or two weeks we will accept registration from members residing in the Kootenays.

cont. →

3- After four weeks we will accept registrations from members living outside our area, unless, of course, they can qualify under #1.

The notion behind the proposal is the fact that the success of the camps is to a large degree due to their low cost and this is made possible only by the voluntary efforts of the KMC members. Under the current registration system there is a real possibility that members who have contributed to the welfare of the club for many years can find themselves unable to take part in the camps.

Thus my suggestion of establishing some form of priority booking system, one based on merit (not a lottery!). Another alternative is, of course, to start charging for the real cost and even make some money for the club- a comparable week with AAC costs even more than twice as much money.

That, of course, would imply using the mountains as just another commodity.

Thank you for considering this suggestion.

Steve Horvath

## **Hantavirus Alert**

Hantavirus infection has now been detected in wild rodents in many States, and may have spread to Canada. The Ministry of Environment wildlife veterinarian has sent an alert to MoE employees pending testing of Canadian mammals. This virus is aerosolized from rodent dropping and urine and can easily be inhaled. The human mortality rate is about 65% and has included a 27 year old biologist.

The following precautions are advised for campers and hikers in affected areas:

- Avoid coming into contact with rodents and rodent burrows or disturbing dens (such as pack rat nests).
- Do not use cabins or other enclosed shelters that are rodent infested until they have been appropriately cleaned and disinfected.
- Do not pitch tents or place sleeping bags in areas in proximity to rodents feces or burrows or near possible rodent shelters (e.g. garbage dumps or woodpiles).
- If possible, do not sleep on the bare ground. Use a cot with the sleeping surface at least 12 inches above the ground. Use tents with floors.
- Keep food in rodent proof containers
- Promptly bury (or-preferable- burn followed by burying, when in accordance with local requirements) all garbage and trash, or discard in covered trash containers.
- Use only bottled water or water that has been disinfected by filtration, boiling, chlorination, or iodination for drinking, cooking, washing dishes, and brushing teeth.

### **FATAL VIRUS**

A new strain of the deadly hantavirus has been discovered in harvest mice. Usually carried by deer mice, the virus has killed 42 people, mostly in the U.S. Southwest. The new strain was found by Dr. Brian Hjelle of the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, who says the hantavirus is transferred to people when they inhale particles of the urine or saliva of infected mice. Flu symptoms are followed by a fatal filling of the lungs with fluid. Harvest mice range from southern Alberta to central Mexico.

# KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

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**SEPTEMBER 1994**

Next deadline: Sept 30, 1994

## **SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE:**

Many trip reports, and a thought-provoking request from BC Parks.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Sept 17 (Sat.):** Cabin work party, George Apel (365-7653)

**Sept 17-18:** Cranberry Mountain C-3, Kim Kratky (352-3895) \*\*\*Note\*\*\* This is a change in destination to a mountain in the northern Gold Range, and will involve a strenuous approach and glacier travel.

**Sept 18:** Three Sisters B-2, Ron Cameron (364-1487)

**Sept 24 (Sat):** Mt. Irwin B-2, Evan McKenzie (352-7801)

**Sept 24-25:** Dag Peak B-2, Peter McIver (362-9513)

**Sept 25:** Whitewater Mountain B-2.5, Peter Tchir (359-7440)

**Oct 1 (Sat):** Mt. Stanley B-1, Dave Adams (359-8112)

**Oct 2:** Frog Peak B-2, Ray Kosiancic (359-7793)

**Oct 3:** Directors' meeting, at Portis' 7:30

**Oct 8 (Sat):** Brilliant Bluffs. Joint work party with Selkirk. Peter Wood (359-7107)

**Oct 9:** TeePee Camp A-1, Jane Steed (352-2196)

**Oct 28:** Annual General Meeting, Trapper John's, Salmo

**Editor's Note:** I wasn't around this summer as much as I thought I was going to be, so this is late. Thanks to all the people who mailed in their reports! Many thanks also to Viv Bowers who put out the previous issue



\*\*\*\*\* MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS \*\*\*\*\*

◆ **Mountaineering Course:** Diane, Caroline, Jocelyn, Suzanne and all the rest of the students sent a note that: "We would like to thank Ross, Brad and Fred (instructors) and all of the many volunteers who came out to help with the Mountaineering Course. We really learned a lot and greatly appreciate your time, effort, and patience with us. Thanks again".

◆ **1993 Karabiner:** You should have received your copy by now. It was delivered by the printer August 5 and 2 days later editor Eddy Szczerbinski set off for home (Brigham, Quebec) on his bicycle. We hope the trip went smoothly and wish him success in future ventures. We will miss his energy and enthusiasm at our meetings.

◆ **The Steeds:** The Club has learned that its request to have 2 peaks south of Mt. Pamburn in the Purcell Wilderness Conservancy named The Steeds, in memory of Jack and Jamie, has been approved by the B.C. Geographical Names office.

Jack was a member of the first ascent party of Mt. Pamburn in 1964, so it is very fitting that these particular peaks be so named.

They were (first?) climbed in 1992 by Steve Horvath, Paul Allen and Hamish Mutch, who suggested the name to the KMC Board. Sue Port

◆ **Kim Kratky** would like it known that there is an error in his "Amen-Ra" article in the '93 Karabiner on page 26. A whole line has been omitted from the paragraph before the summary. It should read, "When I shouted out joyfully that I had found the route, Hamish delivered a jolly, 'Good, now I won't have to kill you.'"

◆ **Kim** also missed getting a '92 Karabiner and would very much like to get one. He is willing to trade a Karabiner from the '70s or '80s for a '92. If anyone has an extra copy, contact Kim at 352-3895.

◆ **Back Issues of the Karabiner:** Sue Port has a goodly number of back issues for most of the recent years. Call (365-6056) if you somehow missed getting yours.

However, there are NO extra copies of the 1992 issue. If anyone has an unwanted copy (or knows a former member who may have one, please contact Sue, or anyone on the Board.

◆ **Silver Spray Cabin:** I got a press release dated August 8 which indicates that the work by the Friends of the West Kootenay Parks Society on the cabin replacement was progressing well as of that time. The release concludes:

"The ..Society has received donations from Labatts, Cominco, and many private donors including a very generous donation from former Nelson residents Lindsay and Jules Holt. The Society will be raffling off a painting donated by Les Weisbrich in the fall as part of the effort and are still seeking corporate and foundation assistance. Any private donors who wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to this effort can send donations to the Friends of West Kootenay Parks Society at Box 212, Nelson BC V1L 5P9, or drop their donation off at Cottons on Baker Street in Nelson."

◆ **FOUND:** Vivitar lens cap at Hiking Camp, on the ridge of Mt Fostall. Contact Dave Adams.

◆ **FOR SALE:** Koflach mountaineering boots (plastic double boots). Mens, probably size 8 1/2 - 9. Call Lee Schaeffer 365-7779.

◆ **Eddy Szczerbinski** has bicycled home. His new address is 283 des Erables / Brigham, PQ J0E 1J0. Many thanks from all of us for your work on the Karabiner and the new KMC brochure, Eddy. Best of luck in Quebec and cycle over to see us again sometime!

\*\*\*\*\*

### Notes from the Directors Meeting (Sept 12):

- Criminals and Blackguards! Be warned, the RCMP probably have a copy of our address list!! According to the new Forest Practices Code it is illegal to construct or maintain any trail on public land without the express permission of the Forest Service. Throwing that branch off the trail could cost you \$100,000 and/or a year in jail! Your ever vigilant executive is writing to protest.

- George Apel announces that the site for the new cabin has been chosen, and work is progressing. As this Newsletter will not get to you before the weekend, you will have to wait till the next work party to find out where the cabin will be. Phone him anyway, 365-7653

- Laurie Charlton requests that anyone who still has receipts for expenses incurred for the Hiking Camps to please contact him asap, so that he can close the books. 362-9461. The Hiking Camp report will be in next month's issue.

- The Annual General Meeting will be on October 28. Bookings are being made at Trapper John's in Salmo, so mark the date on your calendar. More details will be available next month. The following executive positions will be open: Treasurer, Secretary, Karabiner, Summer Trips, Winter Trips, Conservation, and Entertainment. If you are interested (even a little teensy bit), talk to someone on the executive. There will be a discussion about what to do about the huge demand for Hiking Camp, so prepare your thoughts.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Banff Festival of Mountain Films

The Banff Festival this year will be on November 4-6, and will feature:

**Alison Hargreaves**, Britain's pre-eminent woman mountaineer, showing *A Hard Day's Summer*, a slide show of her recent solo ascent of the six classic north faces of the Alps

**Sir Edmund Hillary**, as the special guest, gives a slide show on Saturday evening.

For tickets or information, phone them at (403) 762-6349.

**The following was received from BC Parks (May 25):**

**Dear Members;**

Thank you for considering this request from fellow friends of the mountains. We still appreciate your active efforts in securing gems like Kokanee Glacier and Valhalla Provincial Parks and look forward to your support in the future as the Protected Areas Strategy comes to fruition.

Kim Shave (Valhalla), Steve Kent (Kokanee Glacier) 825-4421

**SECRET**

**March 30, 1994**

I had often seen Buchanan Lookout above Kaslo, but never been up there. However, I once met a Kaslo resident who told me it was possible to ski up there.

Henceforth, there appeared to be no route finding problems as the road zigzagged up to the ridge, with the lookout tower visible to the east. But when a switchback took us on top of the ridge and away from the lookout, we suspected something was wrong. We hadn't noticed any branch in

the road, but went back to look for one anyway. Eventually, after retreating a way below the ridge, we found an inconspicuous second road branching off below us in a clearing. A dark object just below through the snow surface proved to be the top of a signpost.

This was a classic example of where the "obvious" route was the wrong one, and the mistake must have delayed us an hour. It was 3:00 when we reached the lookout, and we wanted to get down before a crust formed on the snow, so we didn't have time to enjoy the view fully. The road was steep enough to require braking much of the way, and the descent took us 2 + 1/2 hours including half an hour walking on the ploughed road, though a strong, expert skier could have done it much faster.

Buchanan Lookout makes a worthwhile trip in good weather. Expect to climb about 3900ft/1200m over 11km.

Norman Thyer

**May 1, 1994**

### **EVANS CREEK**

As a leader of a trip, I made two discoveries: one, that I'd forgotten about leading the trip when someone called me up a week ahead, and two, that I could split the list in two parts, new people who signed up early, and "old members" who called Saturday evening and then only maybe! Although the weather did not look very promising at 8am when 17 of us met at the Playmor Junction, it turned out to be an almost perfect day, not too hot, not too cold. Everyone walked to the Evans Creek Waterfall, and two new members, "led on" by Bob Dean, went about 3 km past there, while the rest of us "rested" at the beach. On several open slopes we were delighted to see paintbrush, shooting star, calypso orchids and larkspur along with other flowers, plus numerous species of mosses and lichens in the woods. Again, this turned out to be a successful trip.

Anna Thyer

**May 8, 1994**

### **CRESTON WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

10 of us set off on a beautiful Sunday morning from Summit Campground. We followed the Dewdney trail for about two and a half hours then lost it. We found our way through the bush following recent guidance of a bear to the edge of the lagoon. We lunched along the lagoon watching the birds. After lunch we followed the dike back to the beach the car at 3. There were lots of flowers along the trail including striped coral loot.

The hike included Jane Steed, Roy and Gloria Hopland, Jan Micklethwaite, Drew Desjardins, Garth Thompson, Joanne Baldassi and Bruce and Kathy Bourdon.

Susan Knoerr

**May 14, 1994**

### **FRY CREEK CANYON**

There were twenty of us on this trip. Coleen, Bob and Kevin canoed across the lake from Schroeder Creek to Fry Creek Beach (one hour canoe) and walked up the trail. Two rather energetic people did a trail run up the canyon! Good going Penny and Robin! The rest of us left the trail head at 9:00 am and walked along at various paces. We lunched and snacked on the beach at the far side of the rock slide - several in the group spotted goats at the top of the rock slide - seven of us continued on along the trail to the Carney creek/road - Fry Creek confluence and finished our lunches while soaking up some of the sun before heading back down. The trail beyond the rock slide area is not clearly defined but if you keep the creek with in hearing distance you'll do fine - Round trip, including an hours break for lunch, took about seven hours travelling at a moderate pace. The weather was perfect and a good day was enjoyed by all.

We were: M. Poohachoff, J. Micklethwaite, B. Freemantle, D. Desjardins, M. Kunashko, K. Gartener, M. Woodward, C. Shields, N. Sinclair, J. Cunningham, R. Belczyk, R. Lidstone, P. Lidstone, K. Forsyth, C. Gilead, B. Hellman, B. Parent, S. Loomans, D. Hagen, and K. Hendren.

Kathy Hendren

**May 21-22, 1994**

**GARDEN PARTY CAMP /  
DEWDNEY TRAIL, CHRISTINA LAKE**

This was not the normal K.M.C. trip but it did qualify as a trip which has not been done before by the K.M.C.

The turn out was good in spite of the unsettled weather. Many of the participants were residents from the area west of the Granby River and thus not qualified to be K.M.C members. On Saturday events went as planned with many people coming for only a short time. There were short hikes to the lookout, wildlife watching, boating and swimming. In the evening there was guitar music and singing around the campfire. The most memorable event was the thunder storm at 5:00 pm supertime. We all gathered around the food table under a large tarpaulin - nothing like a good rain storm to get people close together. Nobody got wet.

Two carloads (six people) camped overnight beside Christina Creek and another two people occupied the guest houses.

The Sunday hike up the Dewdney Trail (10 km) started at 9:00 am with thirteen participants. We enjoyed the sunny weather and the panoramic views of Christian Lake, Cascade Canyon and the golf course. Our thoughts were with Edgar Dewdney who constructed the trail in 1860-1861 and the miners and prospectors who used it.

The six KMC members who participated were Bob Dean, Norman and Anna Thyer, Mary Martin, Pamela Jenkins and Dennis Sims.

Dennis Sims

**June 5, 1994**

**LOST LAKE / COMMONWEALTH MOUNTAIN**

Nineteen people went on this trip, thirteen of whom climbed to the of Commonwealth and back via the Barrett Creek road. The weather was good, in spite of heavy rain the previous day and heavy rain again the next day.

Bob Dean

**June 6, 1994**

**YMIR MOUNTAIN**

Seven met at Apex at 8:00 am. One member had to return to Nelson for his boots which he had forgotten. Arriving at the lodge the leader decided to leave ice axes in the vehicles since there were only a few snow gullies visible.

We climbed up the T-bar and onto the ridge, travelling behind Half Dome across some fairly steep snow sections down which one party slid into the rocks below. We ate on the summit and descended via the west ridge. Upon nearing the valley it was discovered that a hat had been left on the ridge so its owner decided to retrace his steps to retrieve it.

The weather was good and all seven thank the leader who was unable to be there.

Bob Dean



**June 4, 1994**

The time to meet was 9:00 am at the Kootenay Savings C.U. at South Slocan. Joanne Baldassi from Rossland was suffering from cabin fever, and a wet hike would cure that. Alan Baker was waiting quietly in his Subaru, but did hesitate to drive through the 100 deep water ditches that we would encounter on the logging road. Mary Martin was cheerfully waiting with her ski pole and all three were willing to trust the fearless leader driving his John Deere 4 x 4. The forecast was mixed: how can the weather person go wrong? Well, it rained all day in a cloud shrouded valley.

The old BC Forestry lookout was a most welcomed shelter for our lunch, and also sharing the same peak is a BC Hydro anprdome housing a communication system.

There was still a couple feet of snow on the north side, and we did return to our vehicles wet, but also the feeling of some accomplishment.

Ray Kay

Editor: I'm not sure where Ray went, but he did include this photo of Mt. Russel



**June 12, 1994**

### **MOUNT AIRY SOUTH RIDGE (via NORNS)**

The upper Norns Creek Road (from Pass Creek) gives access to some interesting points in the southern Valhallas:

- at 10 km., the left (main) fork up Ladybird Creek has high access to several points of Kamikaze Ridge (the ridge separating Ladybird and upper Norns Creeks).

- the right fork up upper Norns Creek gives access to:

- 1) a low pass to Airy Creek

- 2) an easy slope to the south end of the Frog Peak ridge

- 3) a longer approach to Airy Ridge, the Ladybird ski cabin just below the south end of Airy Ridge, and Mt. Airy itself. The last 2 km of the road are very rough followed by 2 km of easy open trees before the ridge.

On June 12, ten of us walked to the cabin and the first peak (7,600 ft) on Airy Ridge. Only four went on to Airy Mountain because of beginning fog and snow. On the trip were Brian Freemantle, Anouya Wolfe, Ben Aubin, David Cunningham, Robin Lidstone, David Mitchell, Drew Desjardins, Ron, Marie, and John Stewart(leader).

John Stewart

**June 18, 1994**

### **SIWASH MOUNTAIN**

Nine people drove to the end of the Rover Creek road and climbed up to the first peak on Siwash. Since the weather was poor, a mixture of rain and snow, we retraced our steps to the snowgoers' cabin, had lunch and returned to the vehicles in varying degrees of wetness.

Bob Dean

**June 19, 1994**

### **OLD GLORY**

Off came the spare clothes in the parking lot,  
Looked skyward, saw sunshine, it was very hot.  
Destination? Old Glory, the summit, why not.

Got to the top at the end of the queue.  
Leaders looked round and admired the view.  
Onward and downward the speeding crew  
Raced to their cares and then they were through.  
Y, if the leaders returned we haven't a clue.

Susan Knoerr, Lee Schaeffer, Ted Ibrahim, Reid Henderson,  
Bev Tomich, Sean Thornton, Suzanne Blewett, Bob Dean,  
Jana O'Brien, Andy Stradling, Cynthia Dyson, Susan Port,  
Merelyn Jones, Hazel Arnold, JoAnne Baldassi.

JoAnne Baldassi

**June 25, 1994**

### **SPHINX MOUNTAIN (B-2)**

It was a perfect(warm blue sky forever) hiking day. We met at Balfour for the 7:40 ferry and were at the start of the hike on the Gray Creek power line road at 9:30. By 10:30 most had made it on top of the "Knob" for a sun-break and by 12:00 we could survey the Kootenays' from atop Sphinx at 8400 feet in elevation. Eight hikers went back the way we came. Two went via the small lake to the west and six climbed Sphinx 2 (Tent Mountain) before descending via the lake. The two floundered around in the bush and came out below the parking area were ecstatic to see Earl and John who gave them a ride back up.[Thanks] There were 11 of us: Earl Jorgensen, John Stewart, Bob Dean, Dan Gray, Mary Baker, Ken Milner, Cory and Susan, Ray Kosiancic, Brian Freemantle, Drew Desjardins, Joan Grodski, Suzanne Blewett, Ted Ibrahim, Robin Lidstone and Ray Neumar.

Ray Neumar

June 26, 1994

**MOUNT GIMLI (2760 m)**

Trip report by Eric White's ghost writer

This could have been called Eric's trip of delegation. The trip leader, or should we call him "facilitator," as they would in modern corporate jargon, delegated the route finding, the kick stepping, and the trip report. I took the assignment of trip report only on the condition that I was not responsible for the contents!

Originally, the trip was to go to Asgaard (the mountain, not the mythological place). Eric decided that Asgaard was too far and decided to go to Gimli. Is this a symptom of deteriorating knee joints?

Most KMC trips start with everyone being assembled in cohesive group only at the vehicles at the beginning of the trip. The group immediately disperses and often regroups at the summit, the disperses again. This trip was an anomaly in that we had difficulty in keeping all the vehicles together. Once the trip began, all 15 participants travelled more or less in one group.

The vehicle route that eventually got all 17 mountaineers on their way to Gimli (via the east ridge), was to travel up the Bannock Burn road, take the right fork, follow the improved road to a switch back headed east (left). Follow that for about 1 km to another switch back, but keep heading east across a deep water bar. Continue until the road forks (less than 1 km) and take the left fork. That road fades at a cut block. At the north-west corner of that block is a flagged trail into the alpine. Once out of the vehicles, the route finding is easy.

Even if the route finding was easy, Eric delegated that to Bob Dean. Once in the alpine, we caught a brief glimpse of the peak through the clouds. When we got to the snow, Eric delegated the kick stepping to Larry Smith, Peter Tchir and Fred Thiessen. We were at the summit well before my usual lunch time. This, of course, was to due to Eric's cruel 5 AM start. We had a delightful view of the inside of a cloud. When it began to snow, we headed back down. What else could we expect other than clouds and snow on an (Eric) White outing!

At the end of the trip we had a brief discussion of the merits and demerits of including a full list of names of the trips participants. Most of us decided it was useful. Ken Holmes, Larry Smith and Peter Tchir told me they did not want their names included on the list below.

Aside from the three curmudgeons, we were: Eric the White, Phreddy Thiessen, Ted Ibrahim, David Mitchell, Chris and John Mansbridge, Dave Cunningham, Bob Dean, Rudi Georzen (from Burton), Suzanne, the Quebec contingency of Eddy Szczerbinski, Benoit Audet, Louis Beaucage and one other whose name we missed.

Eric White's ghost writer

June 28, 1994

**MOUNT LOUIS, A Guided Climb**

For many years, while driving from Calgary to Banff, I have looked up at the skyline from Minnewanka Powerhouse and seen on the skyline, a limestone spire. It is called Mount Louis. Not having the skill and equipment to climb this peak on our own, Julian Lash of Surrey, B.C. and myself decided to hire professional guides.

On Monday evening, June 27, we walked up the Edith Pass Trail from the Trans Canada Highway and made camp Between Mount Edith and Mount Louis.

The following morning it was an enjoyable eight hour climb via the Kain route, 5.7 to the summit. The rope work was super safe - three anchors for each belay point. We had complete confidence in the guides. The only mishap for me was a removeable handhold. As I still had one very good foothold, I was able to recover without patting and weight on the rope.

The descent was a bit of a circus when the guides decided to lower Julian and myself down the mountain on a single rope. It was rather like trying to drive a car with the foot of somebody else on the gas pedal. Not only did we need to keep up to the speed of the but also to the speed of each other. Eventually we both complained so loudly that we chanced to normal rappels. From the summit to the ridge was seven double rope rappels, the longest rappel decent that I have ever done. We were back at camp by 7:30 PM in plenty of time to hike down the trail before dark.

Truly a classic Rockies climb.

Dennis Sims

**June 28, 1994**

### **MOUNT RUNDLE (BANFF)**

Not being fast enough or agile enough to accompany my husband, Dennis Sims, and friend Julian lash on their guided climb of Mount Louis near Banff, I elected to tackle Mount Rundle, which at 9,675 feet offers splendid views after a non-technical scramble.

The trail starts near the Spray River bridge, the other side of the golf course. It traverses the side hill through the forest as a wide footpath. Higher up it crosses several avalanche slopes. Suddenly after hiking for two hours this good trail ends. A sign warns that only experienced mountain hikers should proceed. This could be Parks policy, as higher up above some cliffs the trail re-establishes itself as it climbs up through high timber & alpine meadows to the lower shale slopes. Some rock scrambling is required to reach the higher shale slopes. Two young men, who were also finding the steep shale tough going over took me. The fact that there were others on the mountain, persuaded me to carry on. At the first summit, when I finally got there, the two young men were finishing their lunch behind a rock shelter. After picture taking, I sheltered from the wind in this place to eat my lunch.

Descending the loose shale was easier than climbing up it. Another young man passed me on his way up. He caught me up on the way down and helped me over the tricky rocks. The others also climbed the peak that day and I met other people on the good trail on the way down.

I was back at the hostel before Dennis and Julian had returned from their successful technical climb.

Pamela Jenkins

**June 29, 1994**

### **OUTLOOK MOUNTAIN**

This was the first Wednesday hike of the season. The destination was changed since the leader was unavailable. Four went, the weather was good and there was a lot of snow.

Bob Dean

..... more trip reports next issue. Ten pages is all we can send without paying overweight postage.

# KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Peter Macek  
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**OCTOBER 1994**

Next deadline: Nov 4, 1994

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- access at Kinnaird Bluffs, page 4.
- ideas for registration for Hiking Camp, page 5

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Oct 16:** Copper Mountain B-1 Anna Thyer (352-5265)
- Oct 23:** Kokanee Lake A-1, and beyond ? Sue Port (365-6056)
- Oct 28:** Annual General Meeting, Trapper John's ♦ details inside ♦
- Oct 30:** Jim Haberl at Capitol Theatre, Nelson
- Nov 6:** Mt. Sentinel A-1 Peter Macek (226-7576). Location will change depending on snow line.
- Nov 13:** Grohman Creek A-1 Jane Steed (352-2196)
- Nov 20:** Cape Horn (Crawford Bay) A-1, Dave Clark (352-3366)
- Nov 21:** Directors' meeting
- Nov 25:** Slide show and Social, Robson Hall 7:00
- Nov 27:** Mel de Anna Loop A-1 Brian Freemantle (352-6649)

**Editor's Note:** Hmmm, you do read the Newsletter, and did notice that I accidentally repeated several trip reports from the Summer issue (Proving you read it better than I do, I guess). Attempt number one at having a photo illustration was pretty unspectacular!

I now have an e-mail address (pmacek@selkirk.bc.ca), and can also accept items in most electronic formats known to man, such as floppy disks (which I will attempt to return eventually). Thanks to all of you who have submitted Trip Reports. It sure is great to have a backlog of articles to work through.



\*\*\*\*\* MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS \*\*\*\*\*

◆ **Winter Trips.** Dave Mitchell (354-4052) is looking for your input as he prepares this winter's schedule:

- Do you want to go on or lead gentler trips that would be scheduled on the same day as more strenuous trips? Suggestions as to destinations?
- It will be possible to coordinate with Gravity Climbing Club and Kootenay Experience for some ice climbing if members are interested.
- Does anyone want to do some more serious winter mountaineering?
- Any volunteers to lead any kind of winter trip?

◆ **Jim Haberl** will be doing a show on October 30, at the Capitol Theatre in Nelson. More information and advance tickets are available at Snowpack. Jim has done many spectacular climbs and was one of the first party of Canadians to climb K2 last year.

◆ **In Memoriam.** Word has come to us of the recent death of Don Mousel of Reno, Nevada. Don was a member for quite a few years and many have enjoyed his companionship at past hiking camps. Our sympathy goes out to his wife Carol, and her sister Naomi Lindstrom.

◆ **Change of address:** Brigitte Massot, 420 Houston Street, Nelson V1L 5H5, 352-3528

◆ **New in the KMC Library:**

The Great Glacier and its House; The story of the first centre of alpinism in North America 1885-1925, by William Lowell Putnam. New York, American Alpine Club, 1982.

The story of Glacier House near Rogers Pass, and of early climbing in the Selkirk Range. The account is much enhanced by generous quoting from the Glacier House Register where climbs and trips were recorded, and by the many historic photographs.

VIDEO: Avalanche Awareness; a question of balance. Sponsored by the American Association of Avalanche Professionals and the Colorado Mountain Club Federation, 1988. 30 minutes

VIDEO: Mountain Light, by Galen Rowell. Mountain photography through his eyes and lens - many photographic tips. 60 minutes

◆ **Trip to Southern Africa - 1995 April.** Are you a non-smoker, interested in joining a group of about seven to tour South Africa / Zimbabwe / Botswana by van next April? Transportation costs (airfare plus van rental and fuel) will be about \$2600 and accommodation will be camping and cheap hotels/hostels/YMCA/cabins. The intention is to hike, sightsee, and visit game parks. If interested, call Ted Ibrahim at 825-0085.

## Notes from the Directors Meeting (October 4):

- Forest Practices Code/trails update. Input has been received from the BC Forest service and is awaited from the FMCBC. The executive will evaluate the situation before any action.

- The Kinnaird Bluffs property has been sold to a Penticton developer, who at present seems fairly supportive of climbers' use. Contacts are continuing. If the owner applies for rezoning, the public will have an opportunity for input.

- Some money may become available for trail work. Do members have any suggestions for suitable projects?

## Annual General Meeting - Oct. 28

At Trapper John's in Salmo at 6:00. Dinner will be a buffet and will cost \$16.00 per person. The organisers need to know how many people are coming at least five days in advance, so please contact one of the following:

Sue Knoerr	365-7779	(Castlegar)
Elaine Martin	368-6445	(Trail, work number)
	or 367-7335	(Fruitvale, home)
Viv Bowers	825-4392	(Nelson)

*Ted Ibrahim  
Kim Kralley  
Jane Spaed  
Carl Johnson*

There will be two major items of business:

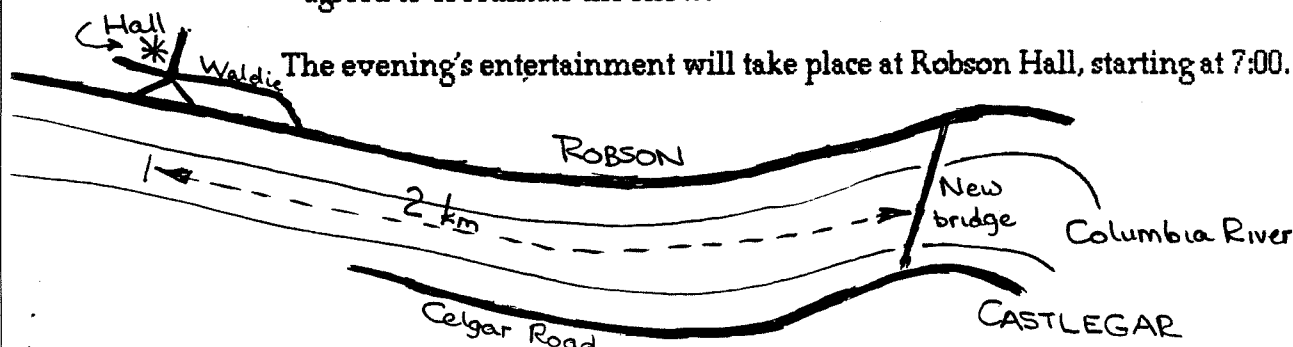
- 1) Election of Directors. Positions open are Treasurer, Secretary, Karabiner, Summer Trips, Winter Trips, Conservation, and Entertainment.
- 2) Discussion about what to do about the high demand for Hiking Camp. As a spur to all of you to think about alternatives to the present application system, there are two letters on page 5.

## November 25 Social Evening

A double feature:

- ◆ TREVOR HOLSWORTH will do a slide show on "Classic Ski Tours of the West Kootenays".
- ◆ "The Best Of Hiking And Climbing Camps" slides. If you have slides to contribute, contact your camp leader or Lee Schaeffer (at 365-7779). Lee has agreed to coordinate the show.

The evening's entertainment will take place at Robson Hall, starting at 7:00.



## Kinnaird Bluffs

The unsigned letter reproduced here was found by the new owners of the Kinnaird Bluffs, posted there in early October, 1994.

Climbers;

Recently I was involved in a conversation, regarding insurance, and compensation in case I or a fellow climber was injured.

I have been informed that a waiver was signed, with the owners of this property allowing that they be clear of any liability or prosecution in the event of an accident.

Not finding this to my liking, I took it upon myself to check with a lawyer. I was told that you can not sign away your rights to compensation. Also if any waiver was iron clad, it would have to be drawn up by a lawyer, and each and every person entering their property would be obliged to sign it, not just a few signing for everyone.

The owners are well aware that we are there, and of the dangers involved, and have made no effort to evict us. Therefore it is safe to assume, that we have their permission to be there. If you injure yourself, my advice is to seek council with a good attorney.

On the same note, do not feel sorry for the owners, as they carry insurance for just such things, and if you sue, you sue an insurance company not an individual.

Several points must be made about this letter.

1. No waiver has been signed, although Selkirk College and the Kootenay Mountaineering Club have had very specific one-time, short-term agreements with the previous owners to use the Bluffs for scheduled instruction.

2. The previous owners have made efforts to "evict" us. The area has been posted with no trespassing signs for several years. Representatives of the Kootenay Mountaineering Club were told that they should not use the area. The police have been called to prevent climbers from parking on the access road. Non-prosecution of trespassers cannot be interpreted as permission given to use the area.

3. The current owners say they have no insurance. The owners' presumed liability ignores the fact that climbers choose to go there and engage in an activity which has risk as a major part of its attraction. Holding others accountable for bad luck or stupidity is inconsistent with the freedom and responsibility cherished by climbers.

4. The advice to seek council with the implied possibility of a financial claim can only lead to a deterioration of the positive view held of climbers by the new owners.

Keep in mind that the Bluffs are private property, that they are posted "No Trespassing", that climbers trespass to willingly engage in a high-risk activity. The errors and the attitude expressed in the posted letter could, if not corrected, undo years of effort to acquire and protect this important recreational area.

If have a position on any of this or would like more information call Bert Port at 365-6056 (H), 365-7292 (W), Pierre Kaufman 226-7968.



## Hantavirus Infections.

This virus has recently been in the news because it has been shown to be in rodents in large areas of the western United States and at least Alberta. Wildlife Branch and Selkirk College Environmental Sciences are warning staff, so we should also be aware of this.

According to Peter Ommundsen of Selkirk, the human mortality rate is 65%. It has killed 42 people; flu-like symptoms are followed by a fatal filling of the lungs with liquid. The virus is aerosolized from rodent droppings and urine and can easily be inhaled. Mice (and especially deer mice) seem to be the most common carriers. The guidelines issued by the Wildlife Branch for hikers and campers in affected areas are:

- Avoid coming into contact with rodents and rodent burrows or disturbing dens (such as pack rat nests).
- Do not use cabins or other enclosed shelters that are rodent infested until they have been appropriately cleaned and disinfected.
- Do not pitch tents or place sleeping bags in areas in proximity to rodent feces or burrows or near possible rodent shelters (eg, garbage dumps or woodpiles).
- If possible, do not sleep on the bare ground. Use a cot... or a tent with a floor.
- Keep food in rodent-proof containers.
- Promptly bury... or burn...all garbage and trash, or discard in covered trash containers.
- Use only boiled water or water that has been disinfected by filtration, boiling, chlorination, or iodination for drinking, cooking, washing dishes, and brushing teeth.

Things to keep in mind if you are heading off to southern Alberta or the US. (As far as I know, no cases have been reported in BC, but after tearing down that mouse-infested shed last weekend, I feel as if I'm some sort of test case!)

\*\*\*\*\*

## Hiking Camp Application Procedures

Letters to the Editor welcomed on all subjects! I reserve the right to edit a bit for brevity and clarity.

from Earl Jorgensen:

The current practice in which the order of receiving applications is the order which designates eligibility, has two flaws.

1. The camp chairperson is swamped with application forms within a very short time. The problem here is that applications come in just to assure the applicant of a place and yet the person is not sure about being able to go there almost five months hence. "So what if I lose my deposit to the Club? The Club is worth it." This is very frustrating in that alternates have to be contacted and after a while these alternates have made other arrangements and are not available. Somehow a system

should be created that will not produce this sense of panic and that will give us more leisure to submit an application that is closer to camp time and thus be more likely to represent the applicant's availability.

2. The present system quite discriminates against those members who have to depend on the mails. Members from farther away should not be treated this way. ... Nor should local members who happen to away briefly in February be put to a disadvantage.

I suggest the following be tried. The dates and location of the camps be published in February as is currently practised, but the application form be printed in the next issue of the Newsletter. That might help in fixing in members' minds whether they actually will be available to go to camp. Secondly, the camp chairperson's list is created and updated right up to camp day as at present. The crucial part is next. Those applicants who do not go to camp in the current year, for whatever reason, are then given first refusal for the next year's camp. But they have only that one time choice. After that their name is off the list. Prior to the start of camp, a person's name can appear only once on the list. Additions to the list after the first day of camp can be made only by the use of next year's application form.

The above is suggested because it makes camp available to all members even if they have to wait a year. We perennial campers who live near the camp chairperson might even have to sit out once! Ahhh!

from Steve Horvath:

... The problem is one of supply and demand, and one of the ways of dealing with it is by regulating the demand. Thus, I would like to suggest that we consider establishing a priority booking system. This can work as follows:

1. In the first week or two after mailing out the application forms, we will accept only applications from those members who have contributed a certain amount of volunteer efforts for the KMC. The type, amount, and duration of volunteer contributions can be specified by a committee of the executive.
2. After this first period, we will accept application from members residing in the West Kootenays.
3. After four weeks, we will accept applications from those members living outside our area who do not qualify under #1.

The notion behind the proposal is the fact that the success of the camps is to a large degree due to their low cost and this is made possible only by the voluntary efforts of KMC members. Under the current application system there is a real possibility that members who have contributed to the welfare of the club for many years can find themselves unable to take part in the camps.

Thus my suggestion of establishing some form of priority booking system, one based on merit (not a lottery!). Another alternative is of course to start charging the real cost and even make some money for the club - a comparable week with ACC costs more than twice as much. That, of course would imply using the mountains as just another commodity.

\*\*\*\*\*

## TRIP REPORTS

◆ **Note that last month**, the Ymir Mountain hike was dated June 6, whereas it should have been July 7, 1994.

**July 3, 1994**

### **REDFISH RIDGE**

Norm Thyer

This was intended to be a more successful version of the 17 October, 1993 trip, which was cut short by new snow.

After driving up the Redfish Creek road, Kevin took us up the final rough section of road in his 4-wheel drive truck. Rain started as soon as we were ready to hike, and rather than bushwhack directly up to the northwest end of the ridge, the general preference was to follow the trail to the southeast end.

Much of the trail was still under snow, old snow with recent new snow on top, and by the time we reached the ridge, there was little enthusiasm for going on up it, in view of some new snow on it, lowering cloud and continuing intermittent rain.

We satisfied ourselves with a detour to a viewpoint above Haiseldean Lake, then returned along the trail to the road. With the weather now clearing, three of us briefly explored the valley approach to White Lady Lake, and discovered that it would involve a lot of bushwhacking.

Our "Group of Seven" comprised Jenny Baillie, Mary Baker, Drew Desjardins, Kevin Forsyth, Ted Ibrahim, Carol Poser and Norman Thyer.

**July 10, 1994**

### **KRAO LAKES & PEAK**

John Stewart

Follow the Cody Caves road - another equal distance past the caves - to a large old logging deck and clearing, and here find a good (unmarked) trail leading up Krao Creek to the upper lake, and above that, to the final ridge and peak overlooking Coffee Creek, Kootenay Lake, and mountains all around.

5 hikers: Dianne Pootnikoff, Norman Thyer, Bob Dean, John Stewart, and Bob Hawes (leader).

**July 10, 1994**

### **HAYSTACK MOUNTAIN (8,800 ft)**

Kim Kratky

This trip was originally scheduled to be to Mt. Sugarloaf (10,742 ft) at the headwaters of the Duncan River. Since the co-ordinator didn't want his first outing of the year to be a Thiessen certified "low-grade ordeal," he opted for a more sensible destination.

Thus, six of us set out for Kootenay Lake's East Shore on the 7:40 am ferry. Motoring up the Sanca Creek road for 18 km. to the car park was our next step, only

the last one kilometre requiring four-wheel drive. The trail to the sub-alpine lakes at 6,700 ft was in similarly good condition. We then tramped the south face and west ridge of Haystack without difficulty. On our return we walked some of the ridges southwest of our peak and even discussed heading over to Mt. Goodwin, but there was little enthusiasm for that plan. By 5:00 pm we were back to the trucks (you should see Robin's new truck) for a cold beverage. In a perfect ending to a most enjoyable outing, we had a mere 30 minute wait for the return ferry.

On the trip: Suzanne Blewett, Ted Ibrahim, Robin Lidstone, Doug Sly, Fred Thiessen, Kim Kratky (co-ordinator).

Times: from ferry to Sanca Creek car park, 1 hour 25 minutes; car park to lakes, 45 minutes; car park to summit, 2 hours, 30 minutes; car park to car park, 7 hours.

Weather: sunny but surprisingly windy and cool above 7,000 ft.

**July 11-14, 1994**

## **MOUNT RAINIER**

Brad Kryski

When you have someone as persistently optimistic as Lee, things just have a way of happening. So a week late, five of us met in Spokane and O'douled on to Rainier. After meeting Andrew, on to Camp Muir under sunny skies, then the summit on another flawless day. The incredible view, the perfect weather, the sight of so many guided people (torchlight parade) and the feeling of some altitude made this an unforgettable trip for most of us. Honourable mention to breakfast at "The Drifter" in Nachez on the way home. Rainier-sized pancakes and a lot of laughs on this trip.

We were: Andrew Port, Chad Johnson, Lee Schaeffer, Peter Tchir, Mike "The Surfer" Hryniuk, Brad Kryski

**July 17, 1994**

## **CHARIOT PEAK (2700 m)**

Kim Kratky

No, it wasn't an official club trip, but Fred Thiessen, Larry Smith and I wanted to see if we could get some exercise before the beginning of camp and visit a local peak none of us had climbed. Besides, we wanted to see just how far into the Devil's Range we could venture in a day.

The guidebook describes Chariot Peak as "1.6 km east northeast of Devil's Dome" and of no technical difficulty. Just what we wanted: an unvisited (for us) peak and very light packs. Sunday morning at 4:30 we left Nelson in Fred's truck and picked up Larry in the Valley. At 6:20 we began our hike from the Drinnon trail car park and quickly travelled to the small lake below the headwall north of Drinnon Pass (ref. 475-168). Here we left the trail, descended to Gwillam Creek, and began a long rising traverse over three prominent ribs and through timber and light bush. We reached the alpine almost directly south of the main summit of Chariot Peak and scrambled easily to the top via the SE ridge (5 hours up). During our hour on the summit, we checked out a floatplane on Evans Lake and the worsening weather approaching from the west.

On our return we descended part of the SW ridge (there's a very long saddle between the main peak and the SW peak, which is the prominent "thumb" east of Devil's Dome visible from Drinnon Pass) and then retraced much of our approach route, although staying higher during the traverse. By 4:30 we had reached the truck, making a ten-hour day in all. Summary: light bush, bad bugs, good route finding, and tasty beers. We wonder how many times this peak has been climbed since Howie Ridge, Gordon Stein, and Peter Wood first did it on Labour Day weekend in 1973. There was no summit record.

**July 20, 1994**

**NANSEN MOUNTAIN**

**Ray Neumar**

Ten of us started off from Gibson Lake and two from Slocan Chief cabin meeting at the Tanal Lake turn-off by Kaslo Lake. Just before Tanal Lake we took the route toward Sapphire Lakes via Griffin Creek. Blue skies, beautiful views and cold water along the way made this an enjoyable hike in. Of the 12 of us, two went on to Sapphire Lakes, ten climbed Mount Gregerich and six continued on from Gregerich up Nansen Mountain. All hiked out via Outlook Creek.

The twelve of us were: Christine Sutherland, Garth Thompson, Anna and Norm Thyer, Mary Woodward, Suzanne Blewett, David Cunningham, Ted Ibrahim, Bob Dean, Rita, Doug Bennett, and Ray Neumar.

**August 10, 1994**

**PONTIAC PEAK**

**John Stewart**

A good trail from the Scranton Basin road (signposted) leads for 3.2 km. to Sunset Lake and a large mine site and waste dump. This is followed by another 2.5 km of steep route finding over to the peak. The peak offers superb views of the Silver Spray and Woodbury basins, the Lardeau drainage lakes, Mt Obon's ridges, and a long sweep of the Purcell Mountains.

7 Hikers: Norman, Anna and Linda Thyer, Ted Ibrahim, Ray Neumar, Bob Dean, John Stewart.

Note: The last 4 km of the road into Scranton Basin from the Woodbury Creek parking junction is badly overgrown and washed out: hopefully Parks will do some work here before the road is lost!

**August 14, 1994**

**GWILLAM LAKES / MEPHISTOPHELES**

**Kathy Hendren**

Seventeen of us met at the Credit Union in South Slocan at 7:30 am. We ended up taking an alternate route up Hoder Creek Road as the Boulder Creek Bridge up Koch Creek Road was being repaired (this change set us back 45 minutes or so - argh!!).

It took us two hours to reach Gwillam Lakes where we lunched. At this point five people in the group headed off to explore the route up to Mephistopheles, which is the pyramid-shaped peak to the right and behind Lucifer. They decided to leave bagging Mephistopheles for another day with a longer afternoon and ended up going to Black Prince and walking along the ridge. Nine of us walked up to the saddle to the right of Lucifer and enjoyed the view. Two others headed back to Drinnon Lake for some afternoon fishing and one person enjoyed his afternoon around Gwillam Lakes.

The weather was great and a good day was had by all. Note: The gas station in Slocan Park is still open at 7:30 pm on Sundays!!

We were: B. Dean, F. Belczyk, K. Forsyth, B. Freemantle, R. Belczyk, J. Baillie, L. Charlton, S. Tomich, B. Tomich, S. O'Donnell, J. Sadoway, J. Lawrence, L. Thyer, J. Baldassi, K. Terry, D. Postnikoff, K. Hendren.

**August 20-21, 1994**

**GLACIER DOME (3000 m)**

**Dave Mitchell**

Nine of us made a late start up to Monica Meadows. There was just enough time to set up camp and cook dinner before it got dark. I thought it was perfect timing but some members thought otherwise. There was a full moon so the camp was almost too bright to sleep. There was even some discussion about travelling on the glacier by moonlight but the prospect of night time talus hopping seemed less than ideal. That notion was dropped.

At 6:30 PDT, we started up over the rocks and meadows to the Osiris-Monica col. This took about one and a half hours from the first lake for the faster members of the group. We set up three ropes and headed over the time zone to Glacier Dome. The leader was unable to coerce anyone else into being the crevasse test dummy, so I was it! Fortunately, we followed along the wussie part of the glacier and there were only a couple of minor crevasses to cross.

We reached the summit, or should I say, dome, at 11:45 MDT. The view of the Lake of the Hanging Glacier required a short walk along the ridge. From the dome, the Bugaboos, Commander Group and Farnham and Farnham Tower are all visible. We loafed for about an hour, even though it was very windy, until the American contingent arrived. We discussed Conrad Kain's contention that he did a one day ski trip from Invermere and climbed two summits in the Commanders. Perhaps the KMC should try to repeat this feat. (We would need Roland Perrin to break trail!)

When the American contingent arrived, those of us at the summit promptly left for the return part of the trip. KMC protocol is to move on as soon as the last person arrives, n'est ce pas? (Ken and Dennis have a technique for pushing on the rope to go faster!) The last of us were at the camp at 16:00 and at the truck at 18:00.

The group consisted of Ken Holmes, Dennis Sims, Thom Volpatti, Andrew O'Kane, Denise Gamble, me, two Virginians, Michael Mullis and Sid Tavss, and the ex-New Yorker, Bobby Gardelli.

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Winter Trips schedule
- membership list

**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1994**

Next deadline: Jan 4

## \*\*\* Membership renewals are due! \*\*\*

Yes, it is once again the time of year for Christmas giving! All KMC memberships are due for renewal as of year end, so check the address label on your newsletter. If it is not Curr.Yr:95 or greater, your membership is expiring. The categories and rates (unchanged) are at the bottom of this page, and Treasurer Garth Thomson is waiting to hear from you. Our membership right now is 295 members, down 17 from the same period last year, but including 40 new members.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Dec 7:** Meeting with BC Parks 7:30. George Apel's 2405 5th Avenue, Castlegar (365-7653). Details below

**Dec 10/11:** Lost Lake ski touring. Peter Jordan (352-5225)

**Dec 17 (Sat):** 5-Mike Basin. David Mitchell (354-4052)

**Dec 26 (Mon):** Location to be announced. Fred Thiessen (352-6140).  
Phreddie's Annual Ski Trip Of Contrition. Pretend that you are burning off all those Christmas calories.

**Dec 31 or Jan 1 or 2:** Location to be announced, type of trip to be decided: day trip or New Year's overnighter? Contact Dave Mitchell (354-4052) to find out more.

**Jan 7 or 8:** Location to be announced. Peter Tchir (359-7440)

**Jan 9:** Director's meeting 7:30 Sue Knoerr's 2412 12th Ave, Castlegar (365-7779).

**Jan 14 (Sat):** Clearwater-Ymir Traverse. David Cunningham (352-7434)

**Editor's Note:** This newsletter is the last one before Christmas, so best wishes to all, and keep all those articles coming in. Any graphics or cartoons are always appreciated - even if I don't use them, it does make my day brighter!

KMC Membership: Individual - \$25.00, Couple/Family - \$35.00, Junior - \$10.00  
Send to: KMC Membership Box 221 Rossland B.C. V0G 1Y0

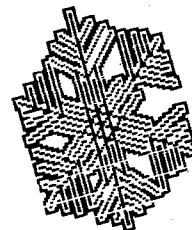


## \*\*\*\*\* ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING \*\*\*\*\*

Approximately 62 people had a delicious supper and held a successful and enjoyable Annual Meeting at Trapper John's on Oct.30.

Your new directors are:

-1994-1996	Treasurer	Garth Thomson (362-7649)	(re-elected)
	Secretary	Muriel Walton (365-6519)	
		Renate Belczyk (365-5134)	(alternate)
	Karabiner	Ron Perrier (365-0818)	
		Gordon Frank	(layout/typing)
	Summer Trips	Bob Dean (359-7759)	(re-elected)
	Winter Trips	David Mitchell (354-4052)	(re-elected)
	Conservation	Ted Ibrahim (825-0085)	
	Entertainment	JoAnne Baldassi (362-5758)	
		Hazel Arnold (362-5021)	(alternate)



-carrying on from last year (1993-1995), are:

President: Sue Knoerr	Mtn. School: Ross Breakwell
Vice-President: David Mitchell	Cabins & Trails: George Apel
Summer camps: Laurie Charlton	Newsletter: Peter Macek

The meeting passed a proposal to try a lottery system to select participants to the Hiking Camps, in order to make the whole process fairer and less stressful. Details will be in a later Newsletter issue. There was discussion and a defeated motion about the environmental impact of a three-week standing camp.

## \*\*\*\*\* MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS \*\*\*\*\*

➡ **BC Parks Meeting.** There will be an informal meeting with Gordon Rathbone, District Parks Manager, and other zone managers at George Apel's on Dec 7th at 7:30. All are welcome to attend, to discuss any items of mutual interest or concern to KMC and the Parks Branch.

➡ **Winter Trips.** The schedule is included with this issue, but Dave is still looking for people who are willing to lead trips. Please contact Dave Mitchell at 354-4052.

➡ **Kootenay Karabiner.** Any members interested in submitting articles for the 1994 Karabiner, please forward them to Ron Perrier, 1436 Highland Drive, Castlegar V1N 3W1, or fax 365-0347. Ideally, articles should be received before Christmas. The goal is to have the Karabiner available for distribution for the Spring General Meeting.

➡ **Speakers:** In years past, the KMC sponsored speakers on mountain subjects to come to the West Kootenays. There is a feeling that we should consider doing this again, either alone or in partnership with other groups. There are organizations that run speakers' circuits and one has approached us with the suggestion that a stopover between Calgary and Vancouver would be possible. If anyone is interested in helping to organize something like this, please contact JoAnne Baldassi at 362-5758.



➡ **KMC Library.** New in the library this month:

K2: Dreams and Reality by Jim Haberl, Tantalus Pub., 1994. For those unfortunates who missed Jim Haberl's slide presentation on Oct 30, here's your opportunity to hear his story and see some of his excellent photos.

➡ **Donation.** The Directors have approved a \$500 donation to the Silver Spray Cabin fund. The cabin was built over the summer and is ready for use. Thanks to the Friends of Kokanee Park for all their work on this worthwhile project.

➡ **Siwash Cabin.** The cabin for Siwash Mountain (a much lower budget project!) is on track. George is still gathering the materials in his garage and construction will take place the week of July 1 - 8. Set aside the time now for an enjoyable camp.

➡ **Hiking Camp 1995:** Next summer is on its way! Laurie is looking at possible sites for next year's camp, so if you have any ideas, he would like to hear from you. Contact Laurie Charlton at 362-9461.

➡ **Ski Touring at Tod Mountain.** We have received brochures on the extensive cross-country ski trails at Mount Morrisey (about 20 trails starting 1km from Tod Mountain's chair lift), and information about renting the Kamloops Outdoor Club Cabin at Heffley Lake (\$8 per person, for 4 to 10 people). For more information, contact the Kamloops Outdoor Club, Box 526, Kamloops V2C 5L2, or phone Robert LeBlanc at 376-2376.

➡ **Ice Axes** There are now five KMC ice-axes available for rent in Rossland at \$5.00 per weekend. Call Ross Breakwell at 362-5169

➡ **Osprey Nest Nature Company (For your information)**

John Carter (long-time KMC member), and partners Ann Blackmore and Bill Duggan have just (Nov 5th) opened a store for naturalists and outdoor enthusiasts. Field guides for a variety of subjects, bird houses, bird feeders, feeding stations, and good quality bird seed in small or big quantities are available. Nature tapes, books and interesting gifts are arriving daily, and science toys and children's books round out the stock.

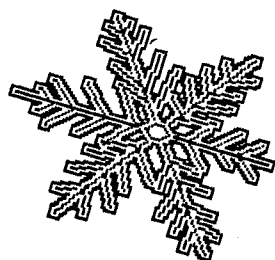
Come in, browse, pick up your favourite bird seed, and chat with the owners. The store is at 415-B Kootenay Street in Nelson (above the Vienna Cafe), and the phone number is 352-1942.

\*\*\*\*\* MISSING PERSONS REPORT \*\*\*\*\*

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the following people, please let them know that their addresses on the Membership List are not current and that they should inform Garth Thomson (362-7649) of their new addresses:

Bill Bishop, last of Robson  
Suzanne Bersaw, of Trail





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## TRIP REPORTS

◆ **Thanks** to all the trip leaders that have sent in their trip reports promptly. Unfortunately, we are limited to five sheets for each issue, so I have been working through the writeups in chronological order. Just room for two in this issue.

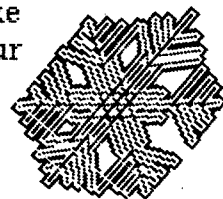
**August 28, 1994**

**WODEN PEAK**

Roland Perrin

With cooler temperatures and a clear blue sky, twenty-seven of us gathered for a hike to Woden Peak. Starting around 9:00 am, we had a pleasant hike to McKean Lakes, where we gathered for snacks, tea and a head count. In order to maintain a KMC tradition, we dispersed in various directions with seventeen ultimately gathering on top of Woden Peak (8,830 ft). The joys of a large group is that you have an opportunity to visit with so many people. A pleasant day was had by all and we returned safely back to the vehicles by 6:00 pm.

We were: Bert, Sue and Andrew Port, Roland and Murielle Perrin, Vicki Falck, John and Chris Mansbridge, Bob Dean and Stephanie, Reid Anderson, Evan McKenzie, Brian and Shona Gagnon, Donna Edward, Suzanne Blewett, Mary Baker, Kevin Forsyth, Mary Woodward, Drew and Joan Desjardins, Brian Beaudry, Mike Wood, JoAnne Baldassi and three more to whom I apologize for forgetting your names.



**September 2/3, 1994**

**COVEN LAKES**

Fred Thiessen

An uncertain weather forecast and a lack of desire to drive to Mt. Tsar changed the itinerary for the weekend to Devils Couch in the Valhalla Range. We assembled at the Drinnon Lake parking lot in the drizzle and set off in the ever increasing rain. After seven hours of travel, we arrived at Coven Lakes in a blinding snowstorm. Fortunately, we were able to find an overhang cum cave, where we could cook and stay sort of dry. On Sunday, we woke to 5 cm of snow and an overcast sky. By noon, our forecasted good weather was arriving, but it was too late to melt the snow on the rock, so we returned to the cars. Oh sigh, we will reschedule a trip to Devils Couch in July or August of 1995 as a three day weekend. This was the first rainy weekend after eight weeks of sunshine, so we did have a chance to test our raingear ... for the most part, it failed miserably.

Soggy campers were: Peter Jordan, Larry Smith, Chad Johnson, Andrew Port, and Fred Thiessen