

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers
R.R. 1, S-11, C-10
Nelson, B.C.
V1L 5P4
ph/fax: 825-4392

JANUARY 1993

Happy New Year! This means it is time to renew your KMC membership. **Warning: This is the last issue of the newsletter you will receive unless you pay your dues.** Also, summer hiking and climbing camps give priority to applicants who were members on February 1st of that year. And the hiking camp application form is usually in the February issue, which you won't receive unless you renew. Have I hammered the point sufficiently? Check your mailing label, and if it doesn't say "93", send your check to Garth (details at the bottom of the page).

JANUARY TRIPS:

Jan 10	Huckleberry Hut	Dave Adams	359-8112
Jan 17	TBA <i>Airy - Tindale Creek</i>	Fred Thiessen	352-6140 <i>230. S. Slope</i>
Jan 24	Kutetl Creek	Dave Toews	825-9361
Jan 31	Clearwater to Ymir	Earl Jorgensen	352-7775
Feb 7	TBA	Peter Macek	226-7576

**** N.B. On Sunday Feb 23rd Mary Baker will lead a cross-country and teleplunking (?) trip to the south side of Kootenay Pass. You can add that to your winter trip schedule. That's the same day that Vivien Bowers (who also teleplunks too frequently) is leading a telemarking/touring trip in the same area.

**** N.B. **Easter in the Rockies.** Calgary member Jeff Roberts has offered to introduce us to some of his favourite day tours in the Rockies during the Easter weekend, conditions permitting. More details later.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: Tuesday January 19th, 7:30 p.m. at George Apel's in Castlegar.



TRIP REPORTS

December 27th, 1993

Huckleberry Hut

This is the biggest KMC trip I have ever been on. When we returned to Nelson on December 26th the answering machine was full with people asking about the trip. On the trip itself there was some question as to how many people there actually were, but Murielle and Sue both counted 22 people, so I guess that's how many there were. The trip was quite successful. We left the parking lot on a clear, cool day at 0830 and arrived at the hut at 1130. Trail breaking was difficult (not that I did any) with the almost knee-deep fresh snow. After lunch we continued toward Cabin Peak, stopping at 1400 hours on the flat bench below the peak at 6500 feet. To our surprise, the run down to the hut was really good in fluffy powder. We regrouped at the Hut, and skied out quickly on the fresh snowmobile tracks to arrive at the parking lot by 1500.

The names I have of those who came are: Dave Mitchell, Chris DeVries, Peter McIver, Bert, Sue and Andrew Port, Dennis Holden, Karen Pullman, Gary Staples, Trevor Hallsworth, Lee Boyer, Phil on a bicycle, Carol Potasnyk, Dave Adams, Howie Ridge, Tom Johnstone and son, Delia and Jeff Roberts, Roland and Murielle Perrin, and myself.
Fred Thiessen

ODDS AND SODS

Wanted: Glide ring for an ice-axe shaft, internal diameter 38-40 mm. Contact Norm Thyer, 352-5265.

Missing old Karabiners? If you missed receiving your copy of any Karabiners from 1984 on, and you were a member at that time, contact Sue Port who has extra copies. 365-6056.

Cabin builders: George Apel is gathering volunteers to help him build the new cabin for the Bonnington Range. Construction happens this spring. If you can lend a hand or hammer, call George at 365-7653.

CONSERVATION REPORT

Conservation is at last a politically popular issue and the government has established a Commission on Resources and Environment (CORE), led by the former ombudsman Stephen Owen. CORE's task is to engage ordinary British Columbians in decision making about resource management such as deciding where Park or Wilderness Area boundaries will be located and which areas will be set aside for intensive resource development. The Kootenay Region has been chosen as a pilot area for this ambitious process to begin, and CORE has a permanent office in Nelson. Negotiations between various consumptive and non-consumptive user groups are to begin soon on these contentious issues.

The government is committed to doubling the area in British Columbia which will be set aside for Parks or Wilderness Areas. A map of the province has been produced which outlines a dozen proposed study areas in the Kootenays which, after negotiation, may become Parks or Wilderness Areas. Interesting, from the club's perspective, are large proposed areas in the Goat Range, in the Sir Stanford region, in the Monashee, and a large proposed extension to the Purcell Wilderness Area. Closer to home are proposed parks at Gladstone, Midge Creek and Hutchison Creek along the Arrow Lakes.

We hope that the club will have unprecedented opportunity to have input into decision making as to the boundaries and status of these proposed parks. It would seem that the government is going to try to do what conservationists have always asked it to do--solicit public input as to how the land is used. We have a strong Conservation Committee consisting of Susan Knoerr, Mike Brewster, Kim Kratky, Karen Holden and me.

Once the nature of the negotiating process is clarified we may need a lot of help. Ideally we should have one resource person for each proposed area which we wish to have input into. Anyone who wishes to help or wants more information on this, please contact me or one of the committee members.

Club members living further afield such as in the East Kootenays may be able to represent the club in their areas.

John Walton, Conservation Committee Chairperson, 365-6519

FEATURE

Snow stability evaluation

from B.C.M.C. newsletter

For many years people have dug pits and used a shovel shear test to assess snow stability. A newer test called the Rutschblock test, was developed in Switzerland in the 1970's. This is supposed to be more realistic and objective than the shovel test, since it requires the weight of a skier on a larger block of snow. The test has been described in articles by Bruce Jamieson and Colin Johnston in the February and June, 1992, issues of Avalanche News, the newsletter of the Canadian Avalanche Association and also by Murray Toft in the March 1992 issue of the Alpine Club of Canada's bulletin. The key sections of these articles appear below.

Site Selection

Test sites should be safe, representative of the avalanche terrain under consideration and undisturbed. For example, to gain information about a wind loaded slope, you need to find a safe part of a similarly loaded slope for the test. Be aware that rutschblocks done on the upper less-steep part of a slope may not be representative of the steeper slope below. The site should not contain buried ski tracks, debris, etc. or be within about 5 m of trees where the buried layers might be disturbed by wind action or by clumps of snow which have fallen from the nearby trees. Slope angles should be at least 25° and preferably 30° or more.

Conducting the test

After selecting a safe and representative site, prepare the Rutschblock by excavating a pit, with a face of 2.5 meters across the fall line. Its depth will be determined by digging past suspect weak layers using traditional methods of card, finger, or brush. One corner of the pit (.5 meters) can be used for performing a shovel test to locate suspect layers. This provides the natural opportunity to correlate the results of the two tests.

The easiest technique for creating a free standing block is to insert inverted ski poles vertically in the pack 1.5 meters up the fall-line from the pit face corners at 2 meters. Then using a 7 meter finished length of knotted 7 mm rope around the poles, a pair of skiers can easily see-saw a cut down the remaining three sides. In deep, soft, surface snow, it may require an additional two people to stabilize the poles to prevent them from skewing at the beginning of the cut! In reality, it helps to widen the pit face just enough to give oneself extra room to cut, and also to slightly flare the cut shape of the block like a trapezoid. In this manner the block will easily slip out if a weakness exists.

The beauty of a Rutschblock is that the results are numerically scored with increasing numbers indicating increased snowpack stability. Scores are defined in skier terms.

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Score 1 | If a shear occurs while creating the block! Extremely weak snow!! |
| Score 2 | If failure occurs when a skier is added to the block, standing on both skis parallel to and just below the top block edge. Weight is vertically over the skis, not edged. |
| Score 3 | Weighting the skis slightly more than body weight with a press of the knees produces failure in the block. |
| Score 4 | The skier uses a single "flying leap" / significant jump to produce results. |
| Score 5 | A repeat of 4 done on the same compacted location produces results. |
| Score 6 | i) in drier snowpacks (Rockies) the skier removes skis and jumps using boots only to get results; ii) in moister snowpacks (interior/coast) where pack bridging is usually stronger, the tester jumps with skis on the middle of the block and produces a clean shear. |
| Score 7 | used to qualify 6 if the shear is jagged and not a smooth plane or the block is bombproof and no shearing results (rare instances) |

Interpretation of Rutschblocks Scores

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1, 2, or 3 | The block fails before the first jump. Slopes with similar snow conditions may be released by a skier. |
| 4 or 5 | The block fails on first or second jump. It is possible for a skier to release slab avalanches on slopes with similar snow conditions. Other observations or tests <u>must</u> be used to assess the slab stability |
| 6 or 7 | The block does not fail on the first or second jump. There is a low (but not negligible) risk of skiers triggering avalanches on slopes with similar snow conditions. Other field observations and test as well as safety measures remain appropriate. |

Limitations

The rutschblock is a good slope test but it is not a one-step stability evaluation! Although for many conditions the information from one rutschblock is preferred to that from a few shovel tests, the rutschblock test does not make profiles or careful field observations unnecessary. Nor does it, in general, replace other slope tests such as ski cutting and explosive tests.

The rutschblock only tests those layers deeper than ski penetration. For example, a weak layer 20 cm below the surface is not tested by skis which penetrate 20 cm or more.

Rutschblock Cords and Saws

Eight meters of 4 mm or 5 mm cord with overhand knots tied every 20 or 30 cm can be used to cut the upper wall and both sides of the block at the same time (provided no knife-hard crusts need to be cut). Such cords can also be used to cut off carefully selected cornices.

Two-part saws with an assembled length of 125 cm make possible very fast rutschblock tests but weigh 1.2 - 1.8 kg. Such saws are also very useful for cutting cornices. For ideas on rutschblock saws, contact Bruce Jamieson at (403) 220-7479 or (604) 673-8381.

Slopes Below 30°

Föhn (1987) recommends that rutschblocks be done on slopes on 30° or steeper. At the Blue River Avalanche Research Project (Jamieson and Johnston 1991) it has been found that rutschblocks on slopes of 25-29° give approximately the same score as rutschblocks on nearby 30-35° slopes. However, rutschblocks done on slopes of less than 30° require a smooth lower wall and a second person standing in or near the pit to observe the small displacements (less than 1 cm) that indicate a shear failure.

The influence of the slope incline on the rutschblock rating was determined. It was found that the rutschblock score typically decreases by one step for about every 10 deg. decrease of slope angle. Studies on the variability of the rutschblock ratings across a slope suggested that, generally, higher scores and a greater variability are found at the top of a slope and, as a conclusion, rutschblock tests should be carried out further down the slope.

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FEBRUARY 1993

Next deadline: Feb.20/93

FEBRUARY TRIPS:

FEB 7	T.B.A.	Peter Macek	226-7576
FEB 14	(XC) Southern Valhallas	Peter Wood	359-7107 <i>9300 Aud. Ph.</i>
FEB 21	Kootenay Pass	Vivien Bowers	825-4392
"	(XC) "	Mary Baker	368-5530
FEB 28	Mt. Kirkup (relatively easy)	Chris Overton	362-7178
MAR 7	Whitewater Ridge	Peter McIver	362-9513

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

CLIMBING CAMP 1993: Organizational meeting. Tuesday February 23, 7:30 pm at Eric White's. 3093 Heddle Rd., Nelson (at approximately "Six Mile" along the North Shore Road. Turn left onto Heddle Road one km past the Duhamel Motel and Store).

If you can't make the meeting, give Eric a call with your suggestions about this year's climbing camp location.

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: Weds, March 18th, 7:30 pm at Susan Knoerr's, in Castlegar.

COMING UP: A Himalayan slide show is planned for March, if we can book the speaker. Details in the next newsletter.



TRIP REPORTS

January 3, 1993

FIVE MILE BASIN

On this cool January morning we met at the Whitewater Lodge. The initial run provided us with inconsistent snow conditions, but we did ultimately manage to find some reasonable powder. The snowpack was low, and with recent gusty winds a skier had to remain concerned about avalanche conditions. After an enjoyable day together, we indulged in a few good beverages at the Lodge.

Roland Perrin

We were: Sue and Bert Port, Roxanne Stanyer and Simon Coates, Fred Thiessen, Peter Jordan, Dave Toews and Roland Perrin.

January 10, 1993

HUMMINGBIRD PASS

The club trip to Huckleberry went to Hummingbird Pass (off the road up to the Whitewater ski area) instead. Thirteen skiers climbed up above Hummingbird Pass and around the shoulder of White Queen, and then up to the top of a little peak north of the Pass. There were good views into Kokanee, 5-Mile Basin, Whitewater ski area and Ymir Mountain. As we had a mixed group of abilities, the party split into two. The gung ho group skied down the southwest side of the peak and skinned back up again through Hummingbird Pass. I took the others down the way we came up. We were back at the cars by 3:15.

The temperature when we left the cars was -15 degrees C; on the summit it was -5 degrees C, and quite pleasant.

Dave Adams

We were: Simon Coates, Roxanne Stanyer, Dave Mitchell, Peter McIver, Howie Ridge, Bob Hellman, P'nina Shames, Carol Potasnyk, Robin Lidstone, Jennie Robinson, Jeff Krueger, Zak, Dave Adams.

January 24, 1993

AIRY/TINDALE CREEK

Our primary consideration in selecting this area was safety. We chose not to pursue Kutetl Creek near the Whitewater Ski area (the scheduled trip) because of the extreme avalanche hazard, and went to the Airy Creek basin instead.

Airy Creek is a tributary of the Little Slokan River near Passmore. It is one of the few areas with winter logging occurring this year that provides access to the high country. We drove along the logging road to the 1240 m elevation, and then spent 2.5 hours skiing up to the headwaters of Tindale Creek, going up the valley on a logging road. Most of us broke some trail, but one of the group did most, without complaining. We went to the top of a minor peak at 2140 m, enjoyed the limited view, and then skied down from the peak in wonderful snow. The trip down the logging road was a bit of a trudge, but Peter McIver took advantage of a recent landslide track to add interest to the descent. We had a pleasant

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MARCH 1992^{93?}

Next deadline: Mar. 20/92^{93?}

This issue includes the information that was on the page that went missing from last month's newsletter. You didn't notice the trip report that stopped in mid-sentence? Sorry about your truncated report, Dave.

The KMC Mountaineering School application form is in this issue. Says organizer Brad Krysti, "I personally consider this course first of all a service for club members who want to upgrade or refresh their skills. Participants have ranged from 16 to 46 years old with similar variety in strength and ability. There is no pass or fail. We try to help everybody get as much out of it as they want." So don't feel you need to be a muscular 17-year-old daredevil to improve your skills with rope and ice-axe.

Brad will also be seeking instructors for the course, and stresses that they need not be hot-shot climbers. "Because we teach basics, one doesn't need to worry about climbing high numbers. The participants want what's in your head, not what's in your arms." Brad's greatest need for instructors is in the rock climbing section of the course. Give him a call at 364-2954 if you are a potential participant or instructor and have any questions.

This issue also includes a liability waiver. You can detach it and make copies if you co-ordinate a lot of KMC trips. Susan Knoerr provides a bit of background to the waiver elsewhere in the newsletter.

There are a number of changes to the March trip schedule. Fred Thiessen, scheduled to lead a trip on the 14th, will be in Chile. Eric White, scheduled to lead a trip on the 21st, is out of commission with torn knee ligaments. However Trevor Holsworth has offered to co-ordinate an alternative outing for that day. Note that Trevor also has a 3-day traverse scheduled for the Easter weekend.

MARCH TRIPS:

Mar 21 Sun	Lost Lake Traverse	Trevor Holsworth	352-7154
Mar 28 Sun	Record Ridge	Chris Overton	362-7178
Apr 4 Sun	Mt. Brennan	Simon Coates	226-7724
Apr 11	Kootenay Pass to Ymir A 3-day trip over the Easter weekend.	Trevor Holsworth	352-7154

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



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: Wednesday March 10, 7:30 pm at Susan Knoerr's, in Castlegar.

HIKING CAMP UPDATE:

All three camps are full, although there is always some shifting of people to and fro. **COOKS ARE NEEDED!** If you would like to be a cook or can suggest others who might, please call Laurie Charleton (362-9461). Cooks have their way paid, get \$100 as an honorarium, and need not be KMC members.

CLIMBING CAMP UPDATE:

The location of this year's camp has still not been finalized. If you have further suggestions, phone Eric White (825-4392).

LIABILITY WAIVERS (There's one on the last page of this newsletter)

Liability is becoming a concern for everyone in our society today, and after several hours of discussion the KMC has decided to proceed with the use of a liability waiver. All trip coordinators can use this waiver at the start of each trip. Have all participants sign the waiver and keep it for several months after the trip is finished. The participants of any trip, by signing the waiver, acknowledge that there are known hazards in the activity. The waiver will most likely hold up in a Canadian court if the person was informed, and particularly if the activity was sponsored by a volunteer organization. Unfortunately we are not positive our waiver will hold up until it is tested. And we hope that never happens.

From "In Search of the Leaning Towers" by A.A. McCoubrey, in C.A.J. vol.23, 1934/35. (Available in our KMC library.)

During the ascent of Campbell creek some weeks previously and during the present descent Roger had busied himself collecting specimens of Bombus for his brother. On sighting a bee the procedure was to hurl the pack off and dash madly in pursuit, handkerchief in hand. A backpacker of even the dullest mentality could not fail to perceive that such a search meant packs off and a rest. Accordingly it was amazing to note the fervor with which members scanned the woods for specimens. I had long been accustomed to natural history enthusiasts but never before had known such a rabid thirst for entomological knowledge. Naturally, I could not let my associates down and speedily joined the ranks of searchers. My own specialty, alas, gave little excuse for loitering, as the geology was painfully simple and showed little variety. Indeed, I became so expert (when the necessity arose) at painting glowing pictures of specimens "just around the bush" that Roger became suspicious, and regarded me with a cold eye when I became too enthusiastic. Nevertheless I have become a firm advocate of having at least two entomologists on every back-packing expedition!

TRIP REPORTS

January 31, 1993 **Clearwater-Ymir**

This scheduled trip is in the realm of an annual event. When the conditions of snow and weather are ultimate then the trip is classic.

The procedure is to park a sufficient number of vehicles 4 km up Wildhorse Cr. above Ymir and then get back to the Camp Busk parking lot (Clearwater Cr. Forestry Rd.) for an 8 AM rendezvous. Eight gathered for this trip.

The first 4.5 km is on a groomed road which made for fast progress. After that it was 6 km of trail breaking. New snow 6 days previous provided 25 cm of powder. We really appreciate the work of those who went ahead. At the 10 m marker a branch road leaves Clearwater and heads SW into Huckleberry Pass. We were there before noon under a clear blue sky in bright sunshine.

While we were having lunch, two snowmobiles showed up from Ymir and stopped to chat. Thus our trip to Ymir from there was spared the search for the road down. The descent was most pleasant but at the lower levels the snow was quite heavy. Nonetheless we were down to the cars at 2:30 pm. The trip was quick, with lovely weather, good company, and except for the heavy snow at the bottom, thoroughly enjoyable.

In the company were: George Edney (a new member from Prince George), Norm Thyer, Garth Thomson, Ross Breakwell, Myron Reese, David Cunningham, and Lynn Fetridge (daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Bud Cooper visiting from Quesnel).

Earl Jorgensen

February 21, 1993 **Kootenay Pass**

After a spell of cold, clear weather, we had a good dump of snow on the day before this trip. Three of us slogged through 30 cm or so of new powder to Ripple Cabin, where a cabal of boy scouts was just leaving. After a snack we climbed up to the ridge above the cabin, heading east. Knowing the avalanche hazard was fairly off the scale (we were feeling some impressive whooomps underfoot), we planned to ski the gentle, treed slopes on the south side. But first, just for interest's sake, we decided to dig a snow pit on a slightly steeper pitch along the ridge. Peter was headed there with his shovel when he triggered an impressive slab avalanche on a 30-degree, wind-loaded slope about 10 metres ahead of him. The slide rumbled down the slope and slammed heavily into the trees, leaving behind a fracture line that was up to 1.5 metres thick in places. We decided that we didn't need more information about avalanche conditions, and skied down to meet Mary Baker's cross-country group that had also skied to the cabin that day.

We then ascended the western section of the ridge (toward Ripple Mtn.), searching for an enticing north-facing slope Peter had spied on the slog up. At 3:30 pm we were at the top of the treed slope, and had an exquisite 1000 ft or so run down towards the highway. We were back at the cars by 4:30 or so.

We were: Garth Thomson, Peter Jordan and Vivien Bowers.

Vivien Bowers

ODDS AND SODS

Been to a cabin lately? George Apel, in charge of KMC Cabins and Trails, asks that any members who have been in to local cabins give him a call and update him on their condition. George frequently receives enquiries about the cabins and trails, and would like to have recent reports to pass on. He's at 365-7653.

Can it be ... Karabiner Time again! Editor Larry Doell is waiting for your Karabiner contributions. "The Karabiner will be a total fabrication if I don't get submissions," he says. So if you don't want to read lurid stories about you doing things you don't remember ever doing, you'd better send in an article. Or if you know someone else who has done something interesting that rates a Karabiner article, please pass on the name. Larry is at 362-5522.

Wanted: Size 42 cross-country ski boots to fit Contact or Nordic Norm 75 bindings. Can offer smaller boots in exchange.

Also wanted: Steel cable for old-style ski bindings.
Call Norman Thyer, 352-5265.

CORE, continued.....: [NB: This item was in the missing page that was left out of last month's issue. It does not contain the most current info on CORE (there have since been further meetings). I'll get an update for the next issue.] KMC Conservation chair John Walton and committee member Mike Brewster attended the Commission on Resources and Environment (CORE) meeting the weekend of January 23-24 in the East Kootenays. While representing the KMC, they have also found themselves, more or less by default, representing the entire "Outdoor Recreation Sector." The weekend meeting continued to focus on the "process" of negotiations, rather than getting down to any actual meat. Although somewhat disillusioned about progress thus far, John plans to attend the next meeting in March. There is a possibility that we will be eligible for CORE money to pay expenses, however the real problem is the amount of time it will take for John and others to participate effectively in the CORE process. On the other hand, we don't want to miss this opportunity for input into the decision-making process. If anyone has time and interest, I'm sure John or the other Conservation Committee members would love to hear from you.

In the meantime, thanks John and Mike for giving up your weekend (and to Bert Port and Eric White who attended the November meeting).

CROSS COUNTRY AND SKI TOURING IN THE WEST KOOTENAYS (South). This little guide by Trevor Holsworth is now available for \$8.00 at various outdoor sports stores (Snowpack, High Country Sports, Gericks) and bookstores in the area. It has sections on both cross-country and ski touring, with descriptions and simple maps of places to go. Trevor writes that a portion of the proceeds of this book will be donated to the KMC for the further maintenance and expansion of the Bonnington Range Huts.

KMC BASIC MOUNTAINEERING COURSE 1993

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 & 21 at Selkirk College |
| 2. | Rock Climbing | April 28, May 5, 12, 19 & 26 at the Kinnaird Bluffs, Castlegar |
| 3. | Lecture | June 2 at Selkirk College |
| 4. | Snow Practice | June 6 at Ymir Bowl |
| 5. | Snow and Ice Weekend | June 12 & 13 at Glacier Creek (may have to change place, depending on conditions) |

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
	Single	\$25
	Junior	\$10 (14-18)

Course: \$85.00 (Includes rental of harness, helmet, ice-axe, crampons. A deposit may 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:

Brad Krysti
2166 8th Ave.
Trail, B.C.
V1R 3E2

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Brad at 364-2954.

THERE IS A LIMITED ENROLLMENT. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 3, 1993
------(Cut here and mail with cheque)-----

Application for KMC Mountaineering Course (Print)

Name _____ Phone No. _____

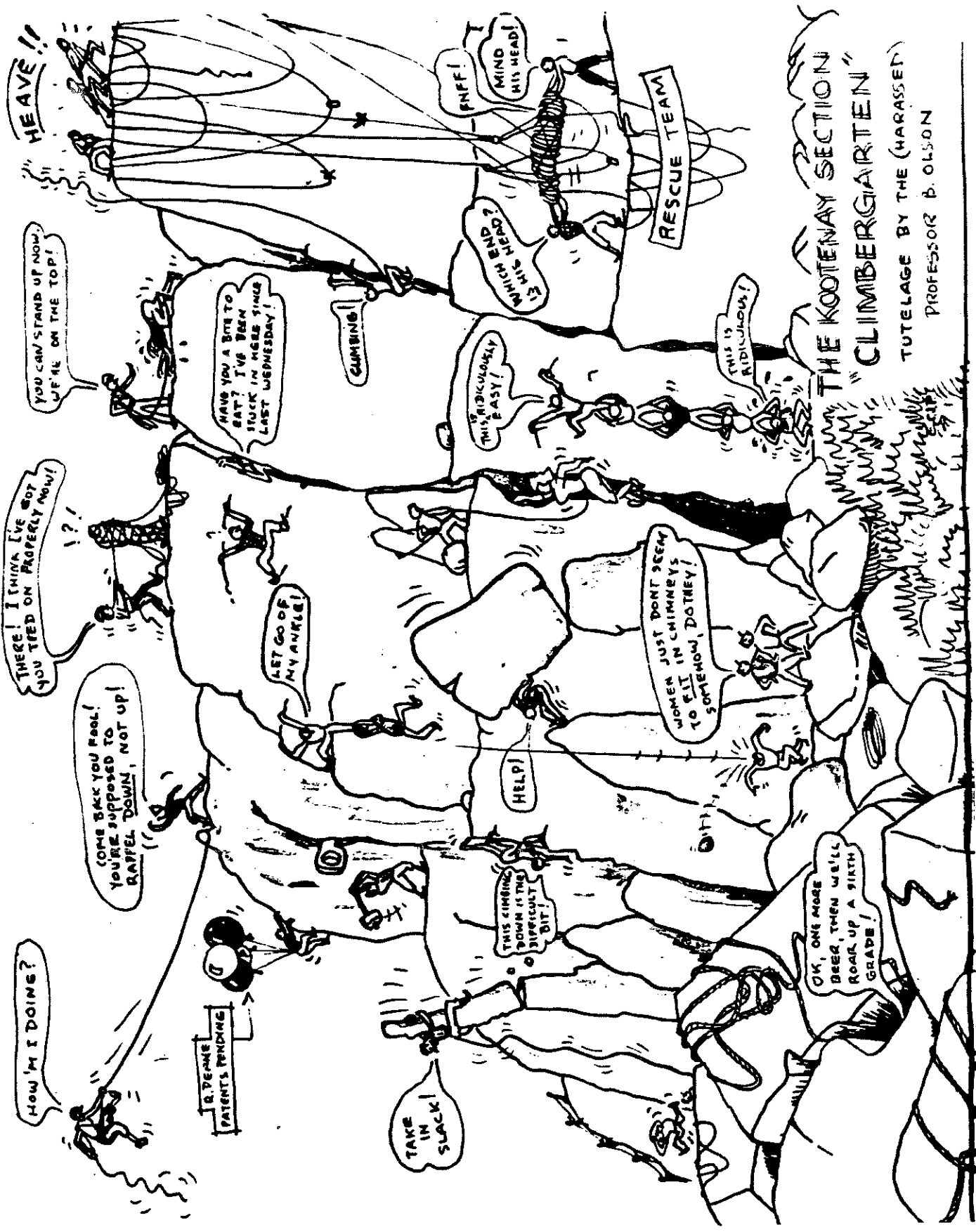
Address _____

Adult _____ Junior _____

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

Signed: _____

from the Kootenay Karabiner, Vol IV, Spring 1966



THE KOOTENAY SECTION
"CLIMBERGARTEN"
TUTELAGE BY THE (HARASSET)
PROFESSOR B. OLSON

WAIVER

INDEMNITY AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In consideration of my being permitted to participate in the courses, activities and functions (all of which are now referred to as "the activities") offered or organized by the Kootenay Mountaineering Club, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, release and forever discharge the Kootenay Mountaineering Club its members, directors, officers, employees, agents, servants, leaders, contractors, volunteers and managers, (all of which are referred to as "the MC") from and against all claims, actions, costs, expenses and demands by reason of any damage, loss, death or injury to me person or property, howsoever caused, arising out of or in connection with my participation in the activities notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed or occasioned by the negligence of the KMC.

I AGREE to save harmless and indemnify the KMC from and against all claims, actions, costs, expenses and demands in respect of any death, injury, loss or damage to my person or property, howsoever caused, arising out of or in connection with the activities notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the KMC.

I RECOGNIZE AND ACKNOWLEDGE that the following risks, hazards and dangers are inherent in the activities:

1. Sudden changes in, and extremes of, weather conditions;
 2. Equipment failure;
 3. Falls of rock, snow and ice avalanches;
 4. Falls on steep and difficult terrain, including falls on rock, snow and ice;
 5. Terrain which is dangerous or difficult to negotiate, including dense bush, rough and slippery ground, and river crossings;
 6. Becoming lost in remote or inaccessible areas;
 7. All others risks, hazards and dangers associated with the activities and generally with mountain travel;
- all of which risks, hazards and dangers may cause discomfort, damage, injury, loss or death to my person or property.

I ALSO RECOGNIZE AND ACKNOWLEDGE that the following events and conditions can cause or contribute to the inherent risks, hazards and dangers of the activities:

1. Inappropriate or inadequate equipment or clothing;
2. Poor or inadequate physical fitness or health;
3. Failure to obey the directions of the instructors or trip co-ordinators;
4. Failure to exercise good judgment or pay due care and attention.

I AGREE to assume all such risks, hazards and dangers, and further agree to bear all costs of rescue and medical treatment rendered to me, or for my benefit, arising from the activities.

over ...

I RECOGNIZE AND ACKNOWLEDGE that in addition to contracting for the above provisions on their own behalf, the KMC is also contracting as agent for, and to the benefit of, their officers, managers, servants, agents, leaders, employees, members, directors, contractors, volunteers and all persons acting under the authority of the KMC.

I HAVE READ THIS INDEMNITY AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ACCEPT ITS TERMS, AND IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunder set my hand, this _____ day of _____, 19____.

Signatures of participants

Please print names

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APRIL/MAY 1993

Next deadline: May 10/93

This issue contains the application for this summer's Climbing Camp, and the Summer Trip Schedule. You'll also find the Guidelines for Trip Coordinators and Participants. By now you have these guidelines memorized, right? New members, please read them.

I'm also tempted to remind some people that there is still lots of snow up high, so please don't turn up for early season hikes without gaiters and appropriate footwear. But that would make me sound too much like a mother, a role I get more than enough of.

The last scheduled ski tour for this year, Dave Mitchell's April 25th outing, has been re-routed to Mauna Kea in Hawaii.

The KMC Spring Dinner is coming up, and before that, a KMC sponsored slide show. All that and planting the garden too. What a life!

My deadline for the next issue will be May 10th, to accommodate my travel schedule. It is not too late to submit your winter trip reports!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

KMC PRESENTS:

CLIMBING KUMBHAKARNA

Slide show by Ken Legg of North Vancouver

- The 1st ascent by North American climbers of the 25294 ft.

Kumbhakarna Mt. in the remote eastern Himalaya in Nepal.

Saturday May 15th, 7:30 pm

at Stanley Humphries High School, Activities Room (Auditorium)

Admission: \$4 adults, \$2 students

GENERAL PUBLIC WELCOME

JUNE GENERAL MEETING AND POT-LUCK DINNER:

Friday June 11th, come at 5:30-6:00 pm

Robson Hall, in Robson Townsite

MENU: Potluck supper

People with surnames that begin with:

A - G: Please bring a salad

H - L: Please bring a main course dish

M - Z: Please bring a dessert

SPECIAL GUEST: Bear biologist Wayne McCrory of New Denver will speak and show slides on bear awareness while hiking. Wayne has worked for several years with grizzly bears and has some fantastic slides to show.

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: May 4th, 7:30 pm, at John Walton's.

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



HIKING CAMP UPDATE: Due to a cancellation, there is one spot free in Camp 1. If you are interested, call Laurie Charleton, 362-9461.

TRIP REPORTS

February 28, 1993

Mt. Kirkup

This easy half-day trip is excellent for beginners, however only experienced skiers took part. Warm sunshine and good snow made this old favourite trip meet expectations. Chris Overton

.....

ODDS AND SODS

Survival Wilderness First Aid: Cathy Grierson is offering this 40 hour course again from May 3 - 7th, 8 am to 5 pm., at the Crescent Valley Hall (by the Selkirk College Continuing Education building). Cost is \$200. Sue Port, Roland Perrin and I took the course last fall. Cathy is an excellent teacher and covers a lot of ground. The simulated accidents are particularly instructive and a lot of fun.

Thanks to Trevor Holsworth, who has donated a copy of his book, *Cross Country and Ski touring in the West Kootenays (South)* to the K.M.C. library. You can buy your own copy in area sports stores. (\$8, tax included.)

Climber wants info: A climber from the eastern U.S. has requested contacts and information about climbing in the Purcells. Can anyone help? He is: David Harrison, 998 Lake Country Court, Oconomowoc, Wis., U.S.A., 53066.

Discovery, The Canadian Centre for Experiential Education. With the beginning of another busy season in the Kootenays for hikers, mountaineers and canoeists, Discovery is launching its 1993 programs. Discovery invites KMC members to take part in our varied program, and offers a 10% discount to club members. Discovery offers programs in outdoor skills, adventure experiences, nature, science and environment, professional development, windwalker camps and timber frame construction. Windwalker camps are designed especially for young people aged 10 to 12 and teenagers with themes of wilderness, water, mountain biking and theatre.

If you want to learn a new skill, explore new vistas and meet new friends, join in the experiences of Discovery. Contact them at Suite 201A, 624 Front Street, Nelson, V1L 4B6 or call us at 352-2022 for a detailed course catalogue.

Hiking Trails of the West Kootenays: Long-time KMC member John Carter's new guide to hiking trails in the West Kootenays will soon be available. Writes John, "this comprehensive guide will provide valuable access and trail notes to seasoned club veterans and new resident members. With over 80 interesting trails from one-hour hikes to multi-day treks, this should be on everyone's bookshelf for handy reference. Look for it in early May!"

1993 CLIMBING CAMP

RICE CAKES RANGE JULY 24 - AUGUST 2

LOCATION: The Rice Cakes range is at the headwaters of South Rice Brook, a tributary of the Bush River. Peaks in the immediate area include Mt. Spring Rice (10 700'), Mt. Fresnoy (10 600'), Mt. Alexandra (11 100'), Douai Mtn. (10 200'), Mt. Whiterose (10 000') and numerous peaks in the 9000+ range. Camp will likely be at one of the two lakes in the area. This will be a general mountaineering camp--big peaks with glacier approaches.

MAP: 82 N 14 and 83 C 3

ACCESS: To Donald on Hwy #1, then north on logging roads for about 2 hours. Total driving time 6.5 hours from Nelson.

COST: \$400 (maximum). Deposit of \$50 to accompany application. Camp provides breakfasts, dinners, cook 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 Eric White at 825-4392 (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:
Eric White, RR 1; S 11; C 10, 3093 Heddle Rd., Nelson, BC, V1L 5P4

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers
R.R. 1, S-11, C-10
Nelson, B.C.
V1L 5P4
ph/fax: 825-4392

SUMMER 1993

Next deadline: August 20/93

Have a great summer, and don't expect your next newsletter until the beginning of September.

SUMMER TRIP SCHEDULE:

There are a few changes to the schedule that you received in the April/May issue:

(Have you lost, permanently mislaid or eaten your Summer Trip Schedule? Garth Thomson has some extras. 362-7649)

June 26 (Sat) Gwillim Lakes Bob Dean 359-7759

July 4th (Sun) Kevin Forsyth has cancelled his trip to Ross Lk/White Swan Lk (but there are 2 other trips going that weekend)

July 17 (Sat) Teepee Camp hike Jane Steed 352-2196

The teepee camp hike (at the tip of Pilot Peninsula, via Pilot Bay Trail): depart on 7:40 a.m. ferry from Balfour and double up on vehicles. If you want to buy lunch, phone the camp in advance at 227-9555. We will make a small contribution to the camp. If anyone wants an overnight stay, arrange in advance by phoning.

July 28 (Weds) Baker Lk/Burdett Pk B-2 Kevin Forsyth 229-4938
Noakes Lk (top of Redfish; some bushwhacking)

August 4 (Weds) Little Drinnon Bob Dean 359-7759

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: June 22, 7:30 pm, at Susan Knoerr's.

CLIMBING CAMP UPDATE: There are still some free spaces in this summer's Climbing Camp (July 27 to August 4). Call Eric White (825-4392) if you are interested.



TRIP REPORTS

First, some impromptu club trips in Chile:

March 8-11 Cerro Leanoria (5000 m) and Cerro El Plomo (6050 m)

From the La Parva ski hill we hiked up the Rio Molina valley to camp at 3600 m on the first night. The next day we hiked up to the head of the valley, set up camp and scrambled up Leanoria, and immense scree pile. The next morning, in perfect weather, we left for El Plomo. It was a long, slow plod and we reached the summit in the early afternoon. All of us were affected by the altitude; me the most. We returned to camp, spent the night and left for Santiago the next morning.

We were: Ken Holmes, Larry Smith, Fred Thiessen.

April 4 Cerro Aucanquilcha (6176 m)

After a leisurely breakfast at the Quabrada Blanca camp (4350 m), we drove to 5300 m, where we parked the truck. From here we walked up the mining road to 5700 m, found a route through the open pit mine and scrambled to the summit. Don Mousseau wants to go on record as being the first KMC member to go over 6000 m in blue jeans. All of us want to go on record as noting the air was very thin but the views were great. Fortunately dinner is late in Chile, so we were not late for dinner.

We were: Don Mousseau, Larry Smith and Fred Thiessen

(More details in the Karabiner. Fred Thiessen)

May 9, 1993 Grohman Creek

19 hikers strolled over to Grohman Creek, the first creek west of Johnstone Road. There is a spectacular canyon and waterfall on it. A few also took in Pulpit Rock on the return. If anyone wants to go another time, I'm always ready for a walk (3 hr). I get permission to go through Karen MacDonald's property first. Jane Steed

May 16, 1993 Merry Creek Trail

To celebrate Hike BC Day, 32 people had a relaxing walk around the Merry Creek Trail. We probably recorded the latest start in KMC history at 1 p.m. in the afternoon. The walk took about two and a half hours and we enjoyed views of Castlegar and the surrounding valley. The participants included several KMC members and their friends. We may get some new club members after this trip. The Merry Creek trail is a good place to take visitors who are not regular hikers.

Susan Knoerr

MORE TRIP REPORTS

June 5, 1993

Record Mountain

It was scheduled for Old Glory, but a recce earlier in the week showed that the Plewman Bowl and the slopes of Unnecessary Ridge were covered with wet, sloppy snow. The route to Record was considerably drier and we enjoyed a colorful display of early alpine flowers. It was good weather and we enjoyed great views from the top. We also checked the traces of the annual ladybug rendezvous in the cairn at the summit. Garth Thomson
We were: Bob Dean, John Stewart, Laurie Charleton, Keith Collin, Pat and Garth Thomson.

June 13, 1993

Copper Mountain

Eighteen of us met at Taghum Bridge at 9:00 a.m. We drove up the 49 Creek Road and after some "tricky" maneuvering and steadfast perseverance through several snow patches the vehicles were parked approximately 4 km from the saddle. The Toyota vs. Suzuki duel was over -- a truce! We traversed up the slope to the top of Copper Mountain where we lunched and enjoyed the warmth of the sun and the fine view of the Bonnington Range. A quick visit to the Copper Mountain Hut and back down the road to the vehicles.

Kathy Hendren

We were: B. Dean, S. Knoerr, L. Schaeffer, A. Ourom, B. Freemantle, C. Geller, G. Thomson, J. & K. Deane, J. Stewart, R. Neumar, E. Dworschak, Kiersten ??, D. Clendenning, S. Boothman, S. Blewett, B. Hawes and K. Hendren.

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REPORT FROM KMC MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL '93

What can I say? It was a real mixed bag this year. Too bad a few students were unable to finish the course because of work. The usual instructors were there but the younger ones had to put their summer jobs first. Their help was still greatly appreciated. No big peaks climbed, tough weather, one injury, tough student... it could have been worse. I hope everyone had a good time overall, and if I did disappoint anyone, we'll pick it up again, in the outdoor classroom, on some club trip or camp, or next year.

Sincerely,

Brad Kryski

P.S. Whoever left their snow and ice book on my car seat at Glacier Creek, phone me.

ODDS AND SODS

Climbers Guide to the Interior Mountains: The American Alpine Club has re-published this climbers guide as a 3-volume set. Two volumes are now available and may be purchased at Oliver's Books in Nelson. The volumes available are:

The Columbia Mountains of Canada, Central (Big Bend, Roger's Pass, Deville, Battle and Badshots ranges) \$38.00

The Columbia Mountains of Canada, West and South (Cariboo Mtns, Monashee Mtns, West Kootenay Region including the Lardeau, Goat, Kokanee, Valhalla, Valkyr & Norns ranges) \$33.00

The unavailable volume will be entitled *The Columbia Mtns of Canada, East* (Purcell Mtns). Price unknown.

Although dated 1992, Earl Whipple advises the information in the guidebooks is not any more recent than 1988.

(Info from Fred Thiessen)

High Terrain Helicopters Ltd. Steve Benwell of High Terrain Helicopters, Meadow Creek, wants to tell KMCers that the company now has its own machine (a 206B Jet Ranger) and can be hired for hiking and mountaineering trips. He's at 366-4420.

Mountain Air Traders and Outfitters: This is a new store in Nelson-- "affordable new and used sporting goods specialists." Partner Harry Ozols suggests that KMC members might be interested in what he has to offer, which includes new canoes and kayaks as well as accepting and selling used sports equipment (including skiing, mountaineering, etc.) The store is at 625 Front Street, 2nd Floor (above Body Motion), in Nelson. 352-2080.

KMC Constitutions, anyone? Thanks to Laurie Charleton, the proposed KMC constitution has undergone further revisions, taking into account feedback received at the fall Annual General Meeting. Anyone interested in reading the latest version please contact Laurie (362-9461) and he'll send you a copy. Now is the time to make any final comments or suggestions, so that they can be incorporated into the draft that is presented to the general membership for ratification.

Thanks to Jane Steed, who was persuaded to speak briefly about the KMC at the Mental Health Fair, held in Nelson during Mental Health week in May.

(A puzzled Peter McIver at the KMC Executive meeting asked, "What does the KMC have to do with mental health?")

Wanted: Hiking Partners/B&B

I will be in the Nelson area August 15-30th and am looking for a group to hike with and see the area. Willing to share expenses.

Eva John. Hometown: Aachen, Germany

Age: 60

Retired Professor of Sports

Please contact Nancy Selwood at 354-3978 for more information.

Rooms to rent: Jane Steed occasionally has rooms to rent at her waterfront Nelson home, mountaineers especially welcome. 352-2196

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

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers
R.R. 1, S-11, C-10
Nelson, B.C.
VIL 5P4
ph/fax: 825-4392

SEPT/OCT 1993

Next deadline: October 20, 93

This is a meaty issue. Lots of trip reports from the summer, lots of upcoming events for the fall. Thanks to my many contributors, and do keep those trip reports coming in! Incidentally, if you change arrangements for a trip you have been scheduled to coordinate, please let me know so I can alert the membership. I try to phone trip coordinators before each newsletter, but some of you are never home.

September and October Trips:

(Changes from the original Summer Schedule are shown in boldface.)

Sept 18 (Sat) Paradise Valley Trail (B-1) Janet Cameron
364-1487

18 (Sat) Monica Meadows/Starbird Pass B-2 Vivien
Bowers 825-4392

(* above trip is for one-day only, not two)

19 (Sun) Nilsik/Lemon Creek Loop B-1 Drew Desjardines
365-3304 (meet at Slokan junction @ 7am)

19 (Sun) Keyhole B-2 Peter Wood 359-7107
(meet at west end of Nelson bridge @ 8:00 am)

Sept 25 (Sat) Dominion Mt. B-2 Peter Macek 226-77576

26 (Sun) Titei Pk B-2 Mike Brewster 352-5666

Oct. 3 (Sun) Valhallas B-2 Peter McIver 362-9513

Oct. 10 (Sun) McKean Lakes A-1 / Woden Pk. B-2 Dave Adams
359-8112

Oct. 17 (Sun) Redfish Summit (east of Mt. Yuill) B-2 Norm Thyer
352-5265

Oct. 24 (Sun) Grassy Mt. B-2 Carol Potasnyk 359-8112

Oct. 31 (Sun) Tanal Lake A-1 / Mt. Robert Smith B-2 Bob Dean
359-7759



UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUMMER CAMPS SLIDE SHOW

Friday October 1st, 7:30 pm

Robson Hall in Robson.

Photographs from this summer's climbing and hiking camps.
Come and relive the sun, snow, white-outs....

Camp Leaders: Please assign someone to collect up slides and
prepare your camp's contribution to the slide show.

SPECIAL MEETING ON THE KMC CONSTITUTION: The country may
have taken a break from constitutional wrangling, but we in
the KMC don't give up so easily. This special meeting, open
to all KMC members, has been called to discuss and vote on
adoption of the latest version of the proposed constitution.
Comments received at last year's AGM, when the constitution
was last brought to the membership, have been incorporated
into this latest version. Presumably everyone who has
comments to make on the constitution will have made them by
now.

Constitutional Meeting:

Oct. 15th, 7 pm

Selkirk College (Castlegar), Room S-220 (new wing)

Copies of the new proposed constitution, showing changes,
are available to interested members before the meeting from:

Laurie Charleton (Rossland) - 362-9461

Susan Knoerr (Castlegar) - 365-7779

Vivien Bowers (Nelson) - 825-4392

KMC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BANQUET

Friday November 5th

6:30 pm (drinks) and 7:00 pm dinner

at Trapper John's (in Salmo)

Big Smorgasbord!

Cost: \$12.95 each

Please R.S.V.P. by October 29th to:

Elaine Martin in Trail - 367-7335

Sue Port in Castlegar - 365-6056

Vivien Bowers in Nelson - 825-4392

Executive positions to be filled at the AGM (can you suggest
someone? Are you interested yourself?):

Secretary

Summer Camps Chair

Equipment, Trails and Cabins

Vice-President

Newsletter Editor

Mountaineering School

SEE YOU THERE!

TRIP REPORTS

June 6, 1993 Mount Baldy (2320 m)

This ascent differed from the KMC trip of 1989 in that the approach was from the Wildhorse Creek road rather than the Porcupine Creek road. Consequently, it was a slightly more difficult and exposed route. We gained access through Darkwoods Forestry's land. To be official about it, we should have obtained a permit from them. What kind of trip leader would encourage eight otherwise law-abiding KMCers to trespass?

We met in downtown Ymir at 8am. The weather was fine, even if the leader was a little under the weather himself. The Wildhorse Creek road was in good condition except for one switchback about 12 km up where there was active logging. Still, this posed no problem. We drove to the Darkwoods gate at km 17 and parked the vehicles. We continued up the road on foot for one or two km to a landing and switch back which is also the height of land. Some minor bushwhacking through a gradually clearing slope of mountain rhododendron led to a ridge that runs south to the summit of Baldy. To get onto this ridge we climbed up a grassy rock staircase (as Sue described it).

Walking along the ridge was easy and pleasant with no snow, save for a few isolated patches. At the crest of a knob, we ate lunch. That was the signal for at least three of the party that the maximum elevation for the day had been achieved (Kathy Hendren, Kiersten Helbig and Sue Port). The six others, after some discussion, decided to ascend the rocky ridge to the summit of Mt. Baldy. After all, that was the planned destination, and Earl Jorgensen was already well on his way! Only four of the six actually stood at the summit, about 4 hours after leaving the vehicles. Aside from Earl, the summiteers were Andrew Port, Bob Dean and Norm Thyer. (Special thanks to Sue for her play-by-play commentary of the ascent. Perhaps there is a career in it, if mountaineering ever makes it to TSN!) Dave Clark went most of the way up and the leader decided after only 50 or 75 m that his constitution wasn't up to bagging the summit that day.

Our descent route was west through a mixture of talus and scrub in the draw between the Baldy summit and the "Luncheon Knob" (not a name officially recognized on the geodetic survey map). This route got steeper and brushier as we descended. This didn't really qualify as bushwhacking because there was no devil's club. The last 500 m of the descent went through a stand of cedar, hemlock and fir and took us to km 16 on the road. The two drivers walked up to our vehicles at km 17. Despite a flat tire, we were still able to get home in good time for dinner. Dave Mitchell

Trip Reports (cont.)

June 20, 1993 Mount Gladstone (2,250 m)

A cloudless day, during a period of generally wet, cloudy weather greeted the seventeen participants for this climb at the north end of Christina Lake. The trail starts from the old railway grade at a point six kilometres north of the Paulsen Bridge on Highway 3, and ascends 1,100 metres to the summit. After eating lunch on the summit, the most ambitious twelve people descended by a different route, ridge walking around the Hooper Creek valley to rejoin the trail close to where it crosses Hooper Creek.

Participants were Dennis Sims and Pamela Jenkins (leaders), Jennie Bailey, Mary Baker, David Clark, Keith Collen, Bob Dean, Drew Desjardins, Earl Jorgensen, Robin Lidstone, Chris Overton, Laura Selzler, John Stewart, JoAnne Tompkins, Garth Thomson, Norm and Anna Thyer. Dennis Sims

July 4, 1993 Mt. Denver (9 000 ft.)

Those of us with canoes were able to canoe over to the campsite at Sharp Creek on the afternoon of July 3rd, just prior to the thunderstorm which prevented the others from coming over in the water taxi. On the morning of July 4th, we left the lake at 0445 hrs. and toiled up the unrelentingly steep Sharp Creek trail to the base of the glacier. We were in the clouds at this point so had to use compass and altimeter to find the peak which we reached at 1100 hrs. Surprisingly it was quite warm at the top so we had a pleasant break. The steepness of the trail made for a "quad" burner of a descent to Slocan Lake which we reached at 1500 hrs.

The trail is in good condition, with only a few windfalls, and steep for its entire length. The peak is a short easy scramble; a rope and ice axe are required for the glacier but not for the climb. Both of the summits appear to be the same height, although the map shows the western summit as being higher. The vertical gain from the lake is 7250', the return distance is about 20 km. Based on our experience, it is feasible to climb Mt. Denver as a day trip from New Denver, as our return time from the Sharp Creek trailhead was just over 10 hours.

Fred Thiessen

The climbers were: Bob Hellman, Larry Smith, & Fred Thiessen.

Reading at the lake was Barb Patterson.

Stuck at New Denver were: Kim Kratky, Norm Thyer, Mary Woodward and Mary Baker.

Trip Reports (cont.)

July 14, 1993 Airy Mountain (8378')

Ten people climbed Airy Mountain on a partly cloudy Wednesday. The group approached via Airy Creek and began hiking at 9:45 A.m. They reached the summit at 12:30, spent a half-hour on top, and returned to the cars by 3:30. Despite threatening weather, they were rained on only once at the end of the trip.

Janice Isaac

On the outing: Bob Dean, Margaret Hill, Ted Ibrahim, Pamela Jenkins, Debbie Phelan, Steve Pratt, Inga Renda, Garth Thomson, Mary Woodward, and Janice Isaac (trip coordinator).

July 18, 1993 Snowcrest Mountain

This trip was supposed to go to Eyebrow Peak, but the coordinator didn't like the looks of the July weather. Accordingly, the destination was changed to a day trip to the popular Snowcrest Mtn. in the southern Purcells. Despite ugly weather and a requirement to catch the 6:00 a.m. ferry, nine madmen showed up for the trip: Trevor Holsworth, Mike Hryniuk, Ted Ibrahim, Chad Johnson, Robin Lidstone, Dave Mitchell, Andrew Port, Fred Thiessen, and Kim Kratky (trip co-ordinator). The 95 km (from Nelson) approach over the Gray Creek Road and up Redding Creek was made in a steady rain. However, when road's end was reached, the weather had improved enough to encourage a few people to persuade the leader not to turn back. And it was a good job that we didn't, as all nine of us made it to the summit, over wet, greasy rock covered with fresh snow. In all, it was a 5 1/2 hour day as we returned to the vehicles by 2:30 pm. Items of interest--Robin's flat tire, the improving weather, a chance to see the last unlogged drainage in Redding Creek, and a two-sailing wait on return.

Kim Kratky

August 8, 1993 Mt. Asgard (9 100')

Rather than doing Asgard as a day trip from town, we car camped at road end Saturday night, arose early Sunday, and set off. The weather was perfect and most of us had a good time. Those who didn't were heard to mumble about the bush, the vertical gain, and the pace (brisk). Fred Thiessen
We were: Larry Smith, Fred Thiessen, Graham Kenyon, G. Daovst, M. Hardenaully, Gary Staples, Andrew Port, Brad Kryski, and Chad ?
[Ed's note: Apologies for any name misspellings above. Fred, next time don't use water-soluble ink on a postcard.]

Trip Reports (cont.)

August 8, 1993 Blue Grouse Basin/Mt. Fennell

The trip was advertised for Mt. Serrie, which is "Mt. Ferrie" on my map - a peak in the range overlooking Summit Lake, between Rosebery and Hills, just north of Slocan Lake. Access would have been from the Upper Wilson Lake area. But the leader had not found time to recce the route, and with children on the hike, it was decided to reroute the hike to avoid the probable bushwhacking and lack of trails.

Instead we went to Blue Grouse Basin in the northwest corner of Kootenay Park. At 0715 we left the Slocan parking lot of the Kootenay Savings Credit Union, and parked at 0845 at the Timber Creek bridge over Enterprise Creek. At 0900 we were headed up Enterprise Creek to join the trail up Paupo Creek that leads into Blue Grouse Basin.

We made very good time up the steadily climbing trail (it needs some brushing out on the banks above the trail bed and a couple of largish blown-down trees need cutting, but otherwise it's in fair condition). In less than two hours from leaving the van we were entering the basin alongside Paupo Creek's loudly gurgling outflow. Lovely views, and lots of flower variety both along the trail and especially in the basin. And ALL TO OURSELVES!

We strolled through the meadows to the old miner's cabin, enjoying the views of Paupo Mt. and Insect Peak. Ground squirrels and the occasional pika called and squeaked as we progressed. Lunch stop was 15 minutes below the cabin. We dressed up (or oiled up) to keep the abundant mosquitoes from biting us while we lunched and examined other "visiting" insects.

After lunch we continued to the ruined cabin (only three walls still standing) with its commanding view of the basin. Then on to the pass above the cabin to look down on Fennell Lakes. Thence up to the top of Mt. Fennell for a view west including the peaks surrounding Mulvey Basin, and view to the east including Mt. Loki, Woodbury Glacier and Kootenay Glacier, Enterprise Pass and Tannal Lake. The logging activities in the watersheds just outside the Park boundaries were very conspicuous in the viewscape.

By 1645 we were back down to the B.G. basin overflow, having travelled more or less directly there from Mt. Fennell, and passing by a pretty little lake and some nice meadows on the way down. Six pm saw us back down at the van. All were comfortable tired from out day's exertions.

We were: Denise Evans, Mireille Evans (11 1/2 yrs.), Nada Gribich (12 yrs), Evan McKenzie and Peter Wood. Thanks for a lovely day out everyone.

Peter Wood

Trip Reports (cont.)

August 11, 1993 Silver Spray Cabin/Mt. McQuarrie

Six of us met at Willow Point at 7:00 am. The drive up the hill was good, however the first hill off the highway is rough, so you may want to take the alternate access road which is 4 km further north along the highway.

The park rangers have done a great job of clearing away the low plant growth along the trail for the first 2.5 km. The hike up is as steep as ever but is well worth the effort once you reach the alpine and the beautiful setting of the Silver Spray cabin. We did spot some aggressive bear digging and scat along the trail just above Clover Basin.

Four members of the group scrambled up the loose rock onto Mt. McQuarrie and two others went part way up Sunrise Mountain.

We enjoyed clear, sunny skies and a good day was had by all.

Kathy Hendren

We were: Kathleen Hall, Bob Dean, Bob Hawes, Peter Wilson, Ted Ibrahim, and Kathy Hendren.

August 22, 1993 Kane Peak

We met in Kaslo at 7:30 am smiling at the prospect of a sunny day and a hike up Kane Peak (Joker Lakes area). After the hour drive to the parking lot, 18 of us left at approximately 9:00 am. We enjoyed the warm sun and the sound of running water as we climbed out of the valley to Joker Lakes and Coffee Pass. While lunching at Coffee Pass (11:30 am) we watched goats feeding down near Kokanee Glacier.

Approximately two hours after leaving Coffee Pass we arrived at the summit of Kane Peak from the south side. There was some dispute as to where the main summit was located but we all enjoyed the beautiful view and the good company. There were different routes selected for the ascent and descent but everybody reassembled at Joker Lakes before proceeding back to the vehicles.

Roland Perrin

We were: Bob Dean, Susan Blewett, Don Hagen, Bert, Sue and Andrew Port, Ted Ibrahim, Robin Lidstone, David Cunningham, Evan MacKenzie, Mike Hryniuk, Chad Johnson, Roland and Murielle Perrin, Eva (?), and Bob Dean's friends from Surrey.

Sept. 5th, 1993 Gwillim Lakes/Mt. Lucifer

Twenty-seven people left the parking lot at 9:00 am. One more was at Gwillim Lakes campsite for the climb up Mt. Lucifer, = 28. Thirteen made it to the top of Mt. Lucifer. The rest chose to amble amongst the lakes or enjoy the beauty of the area.

Highlights of the trip were a flat tire, a truck that wouldn't start, tea in the parking lot, and beautiful weather.

Dave Cunningham

ODDS AND SODS

Banff Festival of Mountain Films: This year's (18th annual) festival will be held November 5-7, in Banff. Feature speaker Friday evening is Reinhold Messner, films all day Saturday and Sunday in two theatres, "Saturday Night is Everest Night" with an on-stage reunion of Canada's Everest summiteers, ... etc. You'll never see a fitter looking film audience than at this festival, and its fun to calculate how many dollars worth of Patagonia and Royal Robbins garments are in the crowd. Plus more films than your eyeballs or your migraines could possibly handle. For tickets, mail order (before Oct. 15), phone or fax:
Banff Festival of Mountain Films
The Banff Centre
Box 1020, Station 38
Banff, Alberta, Canada T0L 0C0
Tel (403) 762-6349
Fax (403) 762-6277

Hiking Camp Cooking Receipts: If you haven't yet done so, please turn in your receipts for the cooking you did to Laurie Charleton. Assuming you want to get paid.

Change of address: Don Hagen has moved to #323-321 Sisel Lane in Trail. Phone number is still 368-5241.

Sunglasses at Monica Meadows: If you found a pair of black sunglasses (MEC on the arm) in the parking lot at Monica Meadows, please give Vivien Bowers a call (825-4392).

Wanted: Second-hand hiking/mountaineering boots, woman's size 7 (men's 5 1/2). I'm looking for something that is comfortable enough for hiking, but stiff enough for crampons and snow. Call Vivien at 825-4392.

Climbing Camp '93: was a rousing(?) success - we came, we saw (occasionally), we clumb (even if we couldn't see at the time). Many thanks to all who helped. The initial cost guesstimation turned out to be accurate - refunds came out at \$2.11 each and will be donated to the camp equipment fund unless any of you need the bucks.

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

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers
R.R. 1, S-11, C-10
Nelson, B.C.
V1L 5P4
ph/fax: 825-4392

NOVEMBER 1993

Next deadline: Nov. 20, 93

It's time to renew your KMC membership! Your paid-up membership year is indicated on the address label for this newsletter. Please check. If it is not Curr.Yr:94 or greater, your membership is expiring.

Membership categories and the address for membership renewals (Treasurer Garth Thomson) are listed at the bottom of this page.

November Trips:

Nov.7 Berry Mtn A-1 Sue Port 365-6056
Sun

Nov.14 Yellow Pine Trail A-1 Polly Samoyloff 365-6474
Sun

Nov.21 Brilliant Bluffs A-1 Tony Heim 362-9565
Sun

Nov.28 Pulpit Rock A-1 Peter Tchir 359-7440
Sun

***** Next issue: Winter trips schedule! *****

UPCOMING EVENTS:

KMC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BANQUET

Friday November 5th

6:30 pm (drinks) and 7:00 pm dinner

at Trapper John's (in Salmo)

Big Smorgasbord!

Cost: \$12.95 each

You should have RSVPed by now, but if you still want to come, give Elaine Martin in Trail a call- 367-7335

(Yes, I have decided that "to RSVP" is a verb. I'm the editor here)

Executive positions to be filled at the AGM (nominations are accepted from the floor):

Secretary

Summer Camps Chair

Equipment, Trails and Cabins

Vice-President

Newsletter Editor

Mountaineering School

SEE YOU THERE!

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



TRIP REPORTS

June 27, 1993

Mt. Cornfield

This hike begins with an 8-9 mile ride over a fairly rough road along Sitkum Creek to the Old Alpine Mine at the base of Mt. Cornfield. If you like poking about the relics of old mines this is an interesting place. A half hour scramble easily takes you up to the first peak where we had lunch and a 180 degree view of our world. Four of us made the hour hike along the ridge to the furthest peak on this mountain. There were some tricky spots that probably should classify this part of the hike as B-2.5. We descended and returned via the Alpine Basin. On the hike were: Yvonne Tremblay, Kathy Hendren, Bob Hawes, Mary Baker, Bob Hellman and Ray Neumar.

Ray Neumar

June 19, 1993

Slocan Chief

Our very inconspicuous group consisted of no less than Sandy Black, Carol Giller, Don Hagen, Sheryl Hagen, Bob Dean, Eleanor, Mary Prothro, Kathy Hendren, Anna and Norm Thyer, Robin Lidstone, Heather Clark, Joy Denison, Kirsten Herbig, Kevin McKenchnie and Brigitte Massot.

We started at a very reasonable 8 AM departure from the foot of Kokanee Glacier road, taking in a leisurely Saturday afternoon stroll up to the Slocan Chief cabin - with a return at 5:30 dinner time (or high tea time if you happen to take note of the Thyers). Blue sky and sun followed us through the day. A pleasant surprise to find the snow melt allowing us a passage past Kokanee Lake, then hard packed enough for travel to the cabin. Nice to have a number of first time club-trippers out, also that not one was lost. All appeared to have soaked in a great day.

Brigitte Massot

July 7, 1993

Arlington Peak

Two contingents, from west and east of Nelson, converged on a meeting place on Lemon Creek from the directions of the Slocan Valley and 6-Mile Lakes respectively. Because of a case of motion sickness following a wild drive over the bumpy and winding road, two people chose to leave the vehicles soon after and hike back down the Lemon Creek road.

The remaining "groups of seven" continued driving north up Crusader Creek valley, looking for suitable roads leading higher on either Mt. Ruppel or Arlington Peak. An old map showed a trail leading to a mine site on the south side of Arlington Peak. We found a road in that location, and our two rough-road-capable vehicles managed to drive up it to about the 5700ft/1750m level. Thence a walk up an old section of road brought us to a log cabin with solid walls but collapsed roof, and soon after, an old mine entrance.

We then headed uphill through forest, and after emerging into more open country, aimed for a the cloud-shrouded ridge above us. We found ourselves on the east summit of Arlington Peak, and then crossed over to the main west summit. Clouds blocked our view of neighbouring mountains most of the time, and soon light showers brought out our waterproofs at times. Our descent brought us back to the vehicles 5 + 1/2 hours after leaving them, and we were reunited with the two Lemon Creek hikers near the highway.

Trips reports cont.

Participants were Bob Dean, Pamela Jenkins, Dennis Sims, John Stewart, Anna + Norm Thyer, Peter Westlake + Beverley, Mary Woodward.

Norman Thyer

Sept. 8, 1993 Mt. Robson

Brad Kryski and Lee Schaeffer summited Mt. Robson via the Kain Route. They were very fortunate to succeed in a season when so few did (25) and many more didn't. The Robson glacier icefall was climbed with two Americans for the greater security of four on a rope. This icefall has gotten more difficult the last few years. Also high winds on the summit ridge and whiteout conditions which amazingly ceased just as they reached the summit, made for some drama. One of the Americans climbed to the top with them when his partner became sick and remained at the dome. Seven day round trip from home. Good fun, good adventure, and new good friends. Excellent way rad sketchy Mt. Robson dude!

Brad Kryski

(Ed's note: I daren't edit Brad's last sentence; I haven't a clue what it means.)

Sept. 11, 1993 Monica Meadows

Ten of us met at the Kaslo Mohawk at 7:30. The road up Glacier Creek and to the Monica Meadows trail has been worked on this summer and is in fine shape. We were on the trail shortly after 9:30. It is well flagged all the way to the suggested camping area at the meadows and to GEORGE'S FAMOUS outhouse!

After stopping to admire and take photos of ourselves beside the elusive outhouse, which the porcupines have discovered even if nobody else could, three members of the party headed for Glacier Dome. The rest of us ambled up to the lakes and poked about exploring the ridges and impressive bear diggings, and even the prime snoozing spots beside the lakes. (As you can see, this was a real hard-core Fred Thiessen-style outing.) The Glacier Dome bound trio were stopped at the col between Osirus and the east buttress of Monica by knee-deep fresh powder on the glacier. Lacking skis, they instead ascended through snow up to the summit of Osirus.

We were all back at the cars by 4:30.

We were: David Mitchell, Mike ?, Peter Jordan, Vivien Bowers, Inge Benda, Norm and Anna Thyer, and Petra, Katrin and Wera-Maria--three young women from Belgium, Switzerland and Germany, respectively.

Vivien Bowers

Oct. 10, 1993 McKean Lakes/Woden Pk.

Thirty-one (31!) hikers got up to McKean Lakes and 11 made it to the top of Woden via the east ridge. The trail starts about 100 m west of the bridge (it's hard to find). It took us 1-1/2 hours to the lakes, and just under 2 hours to the summit of Woden. The day was fabulous, and the views were incredible.

Dave Adams

ODDS AND SODS

KMC has a new Constitution! At a Special Meeting October 15th, KMC members made some amendments to the proposed new constitution, and then voted to adopt the amended version. I guess that means we'll be missing our usual constitutional debates and debacles at this year's AGM. Rats. Many thanks to Laurie Charlton, who spearheaded the rather thankless job of bringing our constitution up to date.

Christmas Gift? Why not a great book on hiking in the West Kootenays. Available from John Carter, 825-4306, or from local bookstores in the area.

Summer Camps Slide Show: The slides were wonderful, but unfortunately the audience turnout wasn't great. Was Seinfeldt on TV that night or something? Thanks to those who went to the effort of preparing their slides for the presentation.

Who bought the beef? Those who bought food for the summer hiking camps and haven't turned in their receipts to Laurie Charlton, do it now!

Karabiner: As this year's Karabiner finally goes to press, the editors urge you to think **now** of articles you could write for next year's edition. Members love reading the Karabiner, but it is a major chore to collect sufficient articles for the journal.

Kootenay Experience - Gear for the Mountains

(excerpts from a letter to the KMC from club member **Trevor Holsworth**)

We take great pleasure in announcing the arrival of a new outdoor equipment store in Nelson. Kootenay Experience will be opening November 1 at 306 Victoria Street. The telephone number is 354-4441. I will be living upstairs at 306 Victoria, and welcome calls after hours at 352-2641.

As an ongoing service to members, Kootenay Experience is offering 5% off all items to KMC members. We rent cross-country skis, telemark skis, touring skis, secura-fix, skins, transceivers, and offer lessons in cross country and telemark skiing. Watch out for ice climbing trips, and Paragliding lessons next summer.

We are cooperating with Mirek Hladik at Gravity Climbing Club where climbing lessons and indoor climbing is open Monday-Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Kootenay Experience and the Gravity Climbing Club have made purchases of climbing equipment to completely fill the needs of all climbers. Carabiners, camming units, chocks, pitons ... etc.

Kootenay Experience will also be carrying Rossignol Telemark, and Touring ski, Merrell, and Alico Telemark boots, Alpina cross-country boots, and the new backcountry NNN boot. ... clothing and jackets... accessories...a range of Rossignol cross-country equipment and gear... the list goes on and on.

A very important part of my purchasing requirements is that I try to buy locally. We would like to expose some of the many talented people here in the Kootenays and sell their outdoor equipment and clothing. If you make something that you feel may be appropriate, or know somebody that does, please feel free to drop in, or call at any time.

Odds and Sods cont.

Textile Outfitters If you sew outdoor gear, you may want to get the 1993 catalogue from Textile Outfitters Inc. They have a good selection of fabrics including waterproofs and fleece, plus hardware (like buckles) and patterns (including clothing for kids). Looks good. Cost is \$2.50. They are at 1240 Kensington Road N.W., Calgary Alberta, T2N 3P7. Phone: (403) 270-2155, Fax 270-4465.

Gravity Climbing Club. Gravity Climbing Club has its climbing walls in the Nelson Civic Centre, on Vernon Stret. You can rent harnesses and equipment there if you like, and receive instruction. Hours are Mon-Weds 6-10, Sat 3-9 and Sun 5-10. For information, contact Mirek Hladik at 352-6125 or 352-3131.

Ice climbing, anyone? If you are interested in a one-day ice-climbing clinic this January, leave your name with our Winter Trips director Dave Mitchell (354-4052) who is hoping to set one up.

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

DECEMBER 1993

Next deadline: Dec. 27, 1993

This is it! Your very last newsletter unless you renew your membership! See fee categories and address at the bottom of the page. Your paid-up membership year is indicated on the address label for this newsletter. Please check. If it's not Curr. Yr: 94 or greater, your membership has expired. Priority for summer camps to members paid as of February.

The Winter Trips Schedule is in this issue, along with the KMC Responsibility Guidelines for Coordinators and Participants. Come on, SNOW!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec 16: Best of Banff Mountain Film Festival, Nelson

Dec 19: Trip TBA, John Carter 825-4306 Destination will depend on how much snow John can scrape together, and will be decided by Dec 16

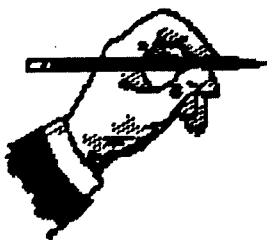
Dec 26: SnowWater Creek (Bonnington Range) Fred Thiessen 352-6140. Feel superior to all your over-indulged friends and enjoy the sunshine.

Jan 2: Huckleberry Hut (Cabin Peak) Roland Perrin 352-5480

Jan 9: Kootenay Pass (Salmo Creston Summit) Bob Hawes 428-5633

Jan 18: Executive meeting 7:30, at Ports in Castlegar

The next social will be an après-ski get-together in January. Anyone have any suggestions? Contact Elaine Martin 367-7335



As you can tell from the letterhead, this is my first crack at the Newsletter, my fumbling fingers having taken over from Viven. Many thanks, Viv, for handing over such an organized system. I hope the fact that this issue is later than is the custom is only due to the transition! I'm looking forward to hearing from all you leaders, writers, poets.... Viv even tells me that I will seldom have to remind you!



The Annual General Meeting was held November 5th at Trapper John's in Salmo. The location was great, nice ambiance, good food. (Thanks, Elaine!) About 55 people attended. No heated debates or major excitement this year. The new executive members elected at the meeting are:

Vice-President - David Mitchell
Summer Camps - Laurie Charlton
Climbing Camp - Larry Smith
Mountaineering School - Ross Breakwell
Equipment, Cabins, Trails - George Apel
Newsletter - Peter Macek

Also, Eddie Szczerbinski has agreed to step in and take over the Karabiner job for next year. They join the current executive, whose terms have another year to run:

President - Sue Knoerr
Secretary - Sue Port
Treasurer - Garth Thomson
Social - Elaine Martin
Summer Trips - Bob Dean
Winter Trips - David Mitchell
Conservation - John Walton

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

Constitution: Sue Port has copies of the revised Club Constitution. Contact her if you want a copy.

Hiking Camp: Laurie is researching locations for next year's camps. If you have any ideas, this is your chance to get them in to him.

Karabiner: Eddy (a free copy if you spell his name right) is looking for authors and contributions. George Apel wants to see cartoons so would somebody please draw some for him! Eddy also wants to talk to backcountry snowboarders. Eddy Szczerbinski, RR 1, S-30, C-36, Castlegar V1N 3H7 365-7842, fax 365-0073

Speakers: The executive is discussing the idea of having the occasional speaker come to talk to members. Suggestions? Contact an executive member.

MOUNTAIN TREK will be hiring a "Lead Hiking Guide" for approximately 12-16 weeks during the period of May through October 1994. This job involves leading 5½ different day hikes per week with 10 to 12 hikers, assisted by a back-up guide. Planning, preparation, driving, first aid, and much interaction with clients are also part of the job. Hiking and guiding experience, first aid and class 4 licence are required. Our lodge is located in Ainsworth, and 1994 will be our 4th season of operation. Please call Wendy at 229-5636 for more information, or send a resume to MOUNTAIN TREK, Box 1352, Ainsworth, BC V0G 1A0.

HOUSE-SITTER Are you going away for the winter? I'd like to house sit, long or short term. Call Suzanne 399-4759

ARCOS full-shank mountaineering boots. Size 7 (women's size 8½). Worn once, one hour. Cost \$185, will sell for \$135 obo. Wendy Hurst 399-4157

SKI EQUIPMENT Kazama Outback TM Skis, Volla release binding, Riva cable (Black Diamond), Black Diamond adjustable probe. Brand new, still in original packaging. \$375 Bonnie Lacombe 352-2634

TRIP REPORTS

August 1993

PINNACLES - MONASHEE RANGE

No one phoned, the weather was awful, the trip did not happen. However, this is a favourite haunt of the Vernon Outdoors Club to which I had belonged for many years.

About 55km going west on Hwy 6 from the Needles ferry and a few km further on from the Spruce Grove Cafe at the top of the Monashee Pass is the South Fork Logging Road. Vernon Outdoors Club have placed a sign on the highway indicating the possible trails and access routes you can reach from this road. All the routes and trails have been greatly improved in recent years and are well marked.

The trip I had suggested starts from a logging clearing on Monashee Creek. The trail winds through alder and low bush following the creek to a headwall, where it makes a sharp left turn (N?) up a steep gully before traversing and climbing up, crossing more gullies and ravines. About 2 hours after leaving the cars, you reach Monashee Lake, from where it's great alpine trekking all the way (no trails though). The most satisfying day trip is Sunny Peak, a pleasant rocky scramble with views of Pinnacle Lake. For those very fit types it might be possible to climb Severide Peak, the highest Pinnacle, and get back to the cars in a day. I had climbed it way back in the 70's from a camp at Twin Lakes - access from the North Fork road. For many, it could be a weekend camping trip, setting up camp on the grassy slopes beyond Monashee Lake. How about a joint trip with the Vernon group?

Pamela Jenkins

September 19, 1993

NILSIK/LEMON CREEK LOOP

While this trip was originally planned for the Slocan Chief Cabin, I decided that since it had already been visited twice this season it was time for my favourite expedition. Nine people met at the Slocan Junction Credit Union. Bob Dean and Peter Wood, who had made previous arrangements, swapped vehicles, and Peter continued on to lead another hike into the Kokanee via Gibson Lake.

Leaving our vehicles at the old upper parking lot, our group, now eleven, hit the trail at 8:45. Earl and Mary met us at the trailhead,

having come in via the Six Mile Creek road. We hiked up the Nilsik Trail in various groups until about the 6500 foot level, where the trail tends to become undefined. At this point we became KMC lemmings heading for Glory Basin. Bob, Jan, Diane, Kirsty, and Mary headed for Sunset Peak (8560 feet), while the rest of us searched out protection from the stiff cool breeze while we took a break and grabbed a quick bite. The peakers were joined by Bert who had snuck up the back side. On the way down from Sunset, Mary took a wicked fall but luckily only bruises and scrapes resulted.

We gathered on the eastern shores of the upper of the two Sapphire Lakes and enjoyed a warm and leisurely lunch. After this Bob and Mary left to return via Kokanee Lake and to retrieve Bob's truck at the Gibson Lake parking lot.

On the way down Bert, Jan, Diane, Kirsty and myself took time to explore the old mine workings at the top of Lemon Creek before joining the rest for the trek home. The weather for the day was overcast with only a scare of snow at the top of Glory Basin and a little rain on the way down. We arrived back at the parking lot at 5:00, a tired but happy crew.

The participants were Sue & Bert Port, Brian Freemantle, Bob Dean, Jan Micklethwaite, Caroline Leface, Mary Woodward, Earl Jorgensen, Kirsty Exner, and Diane Paolini. -Drew Desjardins

17 October, 1993

REDFISH SUMMIT

Several years ago, I went on a ski trip to Redfish Creek and Mt. Yuill with the Nelson Search & Rescue Group. To the east, I saw a rocky summit that appeared unnamed, and on which there appeared to be no information.

It was July 1993 when I next went to that area, and David Cunningham took me up a side road off Redfish Creek, past a trapper's cabin and along a muddy trail to a col at the south end of a ridge; the rocky summit was at the north end of that ridge.

The traverse of that ridge was our plan for the trip of 17 October. After driving up the good section of the Redfish Creek road, Bob took us all up the side road in his capable truck, thus reducing our hiking time by an hour each way. Thence we followed the trail, and started up the ridge. Soon we reached a level where new snow covered practically everything. Just before the highest point of the ridge, we stopped for lunch. Grays Peak and part of the Kokanee Glacier were to the northwest of us, but the cloud that had developed during the morning was low enough to partly obscure them.

There was still a good stretch of ridge ahead of us, but with the prospect of more difficult scrambling with new snow, the general desire was to return at this point. Perhaps we can try again sometime, starting from the north end of the ridge.

Back at the road by 3pm, six of us took an extra short hike to Ross Lake. Participants were: Jenny Baillie, David Clark, Bob Dean, Ted Ibrahim, Wera Seeger, Jonathan Smith, Anna Thyer, Norman Thyer, Mary Woodward. - Norman Thyer