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

Editor: Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd

R.R.1

Nelson, B.C.

V1L 5P4

ph/fax: 825-4392



FEBRUARY 1992

Next deadline: Feb.20/92



This is it, folks. MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE and this is your last newsletter unless you renew. Unlike Reader's Digest subscribers, you won't receive more reminders, pleas or outright commands. Nor will you win a million dollars. Membership Secretary Garth Thomson asks you to check your address label to see if you are a current member. Renew now for "92."

Individual - \$25 Couple/Family - \$35 Junior (14-18) - \$10

Send to: KMC Membership

Box 221

Rossland, BC

VOG 1YO

FEBRUARY TRIPS:

Feb 1/2 Ken Holmes' trip to Grassy Mountain is cancelled, or rerouted to Chile.

FEB 9 Sun	Southern Valhallas Location will depend on road o	Peter Wood penings	359-7107
FEB 15/16 Sat/Sun	Copper Mountain Overnight to enjoy the powder	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
FEB 23 Sun	T.B.A. (phone John)	John Carter	Roland Perrin 825-4306 352-5480
MAR 1 Sun	Goat Creek Ski with Peter to one of his f	Peter Mclver avourite areas	362-9513

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: Weds, Feb. 12, at the Apel's.

TRIP REPORTS

December 15, 1991

Paulson Trails

Eat your hearts out, everyone who was not able to be with us on this glorious sunny day. We started at Mud Lake and skied the Rossland Paulson Trail, lunched in the sunshine at the junction of Basin Trail amidst a wonderland of hoar frost, ice crystals and glistening snow, and had tea at the Glenmerry Shelter. Ski conditions were excellent on a fast set track. The trip took five hours.

Our group was: Dave "Santa" Adams, Peter Jordan, Carol Potasnyk, Gabbie Sittig, Garth Thomson

Followed by.........KMC Christmas Party

Fun, games, good food, old friends, new acquaintances and song were some of the ingredients that made the 1991 Christmas Party a great success. The popularity of this event attracted 22 guests, some from as far away as Poland, Victoria and the remote Slocan Valley. Could the attraction be the indescribable gifts we all go home with? Special thanks to Sue and Bert Port for hosting this event.

Carol Potasnyk

December 29, 1991 Five Mile Basin

For the last organized trip of 1991, 17 skiers participated on a trip into Five Mile Basin. The avalanche hazard was low and we enjoyed some exhilarating runs down untracked slopes. In the party we had many people from the West Kootenays and we were also joined by a contingent from Vancouver and another from Calgary. And for Ken, who always enjoys sharing his Christmas chocolates (this year accompanied by a beer), this is his last KMC trip before he and Rita depart for Chile.

January 12, 1992 Mt. Stanley, 7764'

With Grizzly and Greasybill Creeks being open this winter, there are some great touring possibilities. Because of this good access, the club trip for Grizzly Creek decided to ski tour to Mt. Stanley.

We all assembled at the South Slocan Credit Union, then left for the 1.25 hour drive to the end of Grizzly Creek, which is plowed to 5700'. From here it was an easy tour to the first bump at the headwaters of Cayuse and Deer creeks, a traverse below the second bump, then a tour in the fog to the summit, which was reached shortly after 12. We took one long run into Cayeuse Creek, then toured up to the first bump for the run back to the cars. A pleasant day with good snow conditions. If you go up here, take a map, compass and altimeter, as this area is at the headwaters of four drainages and one could become lost easily. Fred Thiessen We were: D Grant, J McNabb, J Stewart, Tawny?, D Mack, P McIver, P Jordan, P Macek, S&B Port, R Perrin, E White, and F Thiessen.

January 18-19 Kutetl Creek Cabin

The Kutetl Creek drainage is accessible from Five Mile Basin through the col at the south end. The cabin, also called "Jamie's Cabin" because of Jamie Steed's work in building it, is about two kilometers from the col and on the north side of the Kutetl valley. There is no point my trying to give directions to the cabin - it is virtually impossible to find unless you go with someone who has been there.

Five of us had a magical weekend. The avalanche hazard was low to moderate, so we had no problems with the steep slopes at the head of Five Mile Basin, and thanks to Roland's superb route finding and positive karma we arrived right at the cabin in three hours. It is cosy, small, well-equipped and very picturesque. After a bit of digging out we went exploring the ridges to the northwest, looking down into Five Mile and Lasca creeks, and finding some good snow and gentle slopes to ski. After supper we went strolling on skis under the full moon.

Next morning, sunny and sparkling, we laid more tracks around the area before packing up and heading back to the ski hill by way of Ymir Mountain. The awful wind-crusted slopes down Ymir humbled us considerably, bringing us back down to earth and to a beer at the lodge. We were back in two hours.

Vivien Bowers We were: Roland Perrin, Fred Thiessen, Vivien Bowers, David Mitchell, Simon Coates.

ON THAT SAME MOONLIT NIGHT ...

Six Mile Lake to Lemon Creek

Three moonstruck KMCers left their vehicle at the Six Mile Lake Road at 4:30 pm and arrived at the Lemon Creek end of the traverse at 10:55 pm. The 6 1/2 hours included a supper break. So brightly shone the moon that night that they never needed headlamps. They were Carol Potasynk, Dave Adams and Peter Jordan.

Dave Adams also reports that a pleasant evening ski jaunt (especially by moonlight) is to go along the railroad tracks from Cottonwood Lake Park to Canadian International College in Nelson. It only takes about one and a half hours. There's also another nice ski trail up Sproule Creek.

AVALANCE AWARENESS COURSE

I took Rob Whelan's (Cirrus Mountaineering) two-day avalanche awareness course in December. If you figure you probably could learn a bit more about avalanches, I would recommend it highly. The course consists of a day of lectures and a day out in the snow. Rob's next course is scheduled for April 4-5.

Here are a few things that were brought home to me during the course:

- Many of the slopes I would not have worried about before are certainly potential avalanche terrain such as small openings in the trees.
- I increased my awareness of the conditions that should make me suspicious of the snow stability, such as during or immediately after a storm (all that nice powder), or wind-loaded slopes, or when the temperature warms up to zero.
- My avalanche transceiver (Pieps) is not a magic talisman that will ward off avalanches. Transmitters help to find a body, which may or may not be still breathing, but it is far more important to know how to avoid avalanches. And carry a shovel.

Fortunately, although the course made me rather more paranoid about avalanches than I was, I also learned that even when the avalanche hazard is high, it is usually possible to have great skiing by avoiding avalanche terrain - e.g., skiing the trees or keeping to gentle slopes.

Rob's company is Cirrus Mountaineering, RR#1, 1034 Hwy 3A, Nelson, BC, V1L 5P4, 354-3820. (See "Odds and Sods" section for other avalanche awareness courses available).

Vivien Bowers

NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEETING

- North Bannock Road: On behalf of the KMC, president Peter McIver wrote to Slocan Forest Products asking about upgrading and maintenance of the North Bannock Road that provides access to Mulvey Basin. Woodlands Manager Dave Wickstrom has sent a cordial response, stating that Slocan Forest Products plans to undertake road construction and upgrading (including bridge repair) in the summer of '92, with field reviews taking place in the spring. He has invited the KMC to participate in a joint field review with Slocan Forest Products, which the executive will certainly follow up on.
- Karabiner: Very few articles have been received so far for the Karabiner. If you have something to contribute, please do so now, or let Lee Schaeffer or Susan Knoerr know you plan to do so. The executive will decide at the next meeting (mid-February) whether to publish a Karabiner this year. Lee Schaeffer

Lee Schaeffer 2412 12th Ave Castlegar, BC V1N 4A8 365-7779.

ODDS AND SODS

Change of address: Fritz and Marie Swinkels now make their home in Whistler (2721 Sproat Drive, Whistler, BC, VON 1B2). KMC friends who want to sample our hiking or skiing or who have to attend a conference can count on a bed for a few nights.

Welcome home Larry and Audrey! The Doells are back in Rossland. Update your membership list for their new address: Box 1419, Rossland, BC, VOG 1YO. 362-5522.

Bon voyage Ken and Rita Holmes, who are off to Santiago, Chile for at least 18 months. Ken left in January; Rita leaves February 11th. They'll be back in May for a visit. (Ken has been boning up on essential Spanish; he can say "I want beer, chips, and hold the garlic please.")

Lost Member: Our mailings to Monty Horton are being returned. The last address we had for him was in Cambridge, Ontario. Anyone knowing his current address, please let Garth Thomson (362-7649) know.

Lost Rope: One rope is still missing from last year's Mountaineering School. If any instructor or student knows of its whereabouts, please contact Brad Kryski (364-2954).

Snow Survey: The KMC will be doing the Snow Survey on Record Mountain again this year for the BC Water Resources Branch. Garth Thomson organizes the surveys. If you'd like to help, call him at 362-7649.

T-shirts: The following members have not paid for and picked up the KMC T-shirts they ordered. Please contact Carol Potasnyk (354-4437).

Hazel Arnold Brad Kryski
Debbie Fletcher Lynn Melanson
Deane Lloyd Yvonne Novakowski
Hamish Mutch Ric Bivar
Toby Thatcher Dan Mack

Snow Shelters: Rob Whelan of Cirrus Mountaineering will be offering a one day course on building snow shelters (igloos, snow caves, trenches, and quinzees). It's February 16th, 8:30 - 4:00, to be held in the Whitewater Ski area. Cost \$30. To register, leave a message at 354-4320, or write to Cirrus Mountaineering, R.R.#1, 1034 Hwy 3A, Nelson, BC, V1L 5P4. (You won't get hold of Rob during the week as he is a heliski guide out of Nakusp.)

Avalanche awareness, ski videos, ski touring & heliskiing ...
Lorie Langford of Lake City Holidays organizes several programs
that may be of interest to KMCers. Lake City is at 352-5253.

- Avalanche Awareness courses will be taught by Tom Van Alstine
(Priority Approach Safety Education - 354-4432) and offered through

Selkirk College (register at 352-6601). The Level 1 course is scheduled for Jan.31st (evening)-Feb.1st (field session). Level 2 will be held Feb.14th (eve) and Feb.15th (field).

- Lake City also operates a **standby list** for commercial ski touring and heli-skiing operations. If you can give her 24-48 hours notice Langford will try to find you a vacancy somewhere. Bookings you make 3 weeks in advance are 30% off.
- Also through Lake City, you have your very own **ski video** made. You can hire a camera operator to ski with you or your group (any size). He'll tape your S-turns and put them to music. Cost is \$150 for half a day, \$225 for a full day.

Guidebook - Ski Touring in the Kootenays

Rob Whelan is collecting route information for a guidebook of ski touring trips in the Kootenays. He's looking for people who know areas well enough to provide either specific route information (he has a sample format) or to come up with a list of tours within a general area worthy of further research (he has delineated 17 areas in the East and West Kootenays). Contributors will be acknowledged and will receive two copies of the guide, plus a \$25 honorarium. If you'd like to help, or for more info, contact Rob at Cirrus Mountaineering, 1034 R.R.#1, Nelson, BC, V1L 5P4 or phone 354-3820 (leave message).

NEW IN THE KMC LIBRARY -

Historic sites in provincial parks and park reserves in the Kootenay region of B.C. Report of the 1974 summer inventory. Photocopy of typescript.

- over half of the 170 pages details trails, mine sites etc. in Kokanee Glacier Park.

In the December '91 Newsletter Megan Moorcroft wondered about the origin of the name Kane Creek. At right is the entry in Place Names of the Canadian Alps.



KANE:

Mount [3090m], glacier; 1920; 83D/8; Whirlpool: RN.

Wheeler suggested this name after Paul Kane (1810-1871), an early Canadian artist who traveled across the continent in the years 1845-48, sketching as he went. His book, entitled Wanderings of an Artist Among the Indians of North America, London, 1859, was very influential in demonstrating the beauty, culture and possibilities of the great Canadian West. Walter Moberly clearly ascribed his decision to go there to having read this book.

Peak [2789m]; 1930; 82F/14; Kokanee; CS.

The brothers Kane, George Thomas and David Prosser (1871-1937) were pioneer landowners around Kaslo, complete with mineral rights which assured them of prosperity. Natives of eastern Canada, they arrived in Kaslo in 1887, where George (the elder by nine years) was elected mayor in 1894. As time went on, though, David assumed the greater civic prominence.

CLIMBING CAMP MEETING: Thursday February 13, 1992, 7:00 pm, at Eric White's place, 3093 Heddle Road, Nelson (on the north shore, actually, about Six Mile -- turn left onto Heddle Rd. exactly one kilometer after the Duhamel Motel and Store). Come and put your two bits in as to the location of this year's camp, or live with it. Phone in suggestions will be considered - 825-4392.

RIGGING for RESCUE

(The technical ropework seminar)
Box 399, Invermere, B.C. Canada V0A 1K0

Rigging is an art that must be learned. No art can be taught by rote. Only the concentration, appreciation and true understanding found in a serious course of study can lead to becoming a truly artful rigger. Polishing the art of rigging to a high level is the only way to insure that an experienced rescue team has the knowledge, safety and flexibility to adjust to the immense diversity of real rescue situations. Ropes and pulleys and friction devices are the heart of technical rescue and **Rigging for Rescue**'s advances come not from technocratic solutions but by finding and reapplying knowledge that has been lost to us since the days of shipping by sail, farming by horsepower and engineering on a human scale that have passed us by. The content may seem revolutionary, but it is primarily the renewal of the knowledge that previous generations found essential for life and their livelihoods.

Participants from across North America have been finding their way to the small town of Wilmer in SE British Columbia to take part in these inquiry based seminars. A key element in the **Rigging for Rescue** seminars is the introduction of a questioning attitude. Transforming the knowledge of physics' principles into practical working systems of greater safety takes precedence over the introduction of new gadgets. This course will explain the difference between simple, compound and complex pulley systems, why mechanical rope clamps and slot type belay devices are unsuitable for belaying rescue loads, the mechanics of the Kootenay Highline System, the truth about "self-equalizing" anchor systems, and much, <u>much</u> more!

Rigging for Rescue is the product of considerable research and development and has been given on contract to various groups across the continent, from state fire academies to mountain rescue specialists. Since 1986 this exhaustive technical ropework course has been available, through the spring seminars offered in British Columbia, to any individual looking for a thorough knowledge of advanced rope systems. Those who are in positions of responsibility need the information that a **Rigging for Rescue** seminar can provide. Those who wish to pass on knowledge of technical ropework to others should consider this 7 day course as the bare minimum an effective instructor would need as background.

WHO IS IT FOR those involved in:

Fire Service - River Rescue - Caving Mountaineering & Rock Climbing Structural Rescue - Medical Aid Outdoor Recreation Leadership Search & Rescue - Civil Defense Emergency Management - Ski Patrols General Rigging - Rock Scaling Sheriff & Police Depts. - Mine Rescue including

Professional Instructors & Guides

WHO HAS REGISTERED personnel from:

Mountain Rescue Groups
Industrial Safety - Forest Service
Worker's Compensation Board
Fire Training Academies - ACMG
Mountain Rescue Association
National Park Service - NOLS
Whitewater Associations - OB
Fire/Rescue Departments - ARCO
Ambulance Service - Exxon - NCRC
Military Rescue Units - County Offices

Rigging for Rescue - (7 full days) - maximum of 10 participants
Instructor - Arnör Larson, a professional mountaineering guide since 1970.
You will be responsible for your own meals, accommodation (camping available), transportation and personal equipment (write for list).

1992 KMC HIKING CAMP - EDOURD PASS

LOCATION:

At the headwaters of Howser Creek, about 90 km north of Kaslo, east of Duncan Lake. Campsite will be in the meadows of Edourd Pass between two small lakes at an elevation of about 6800'. The campsite is 2 km due west of Mt. Galloway (9700') at the western end of Starbird Ridge. To the east of Mt. Galloway is the Catamount Glacier and the Scotch Peaks. Other features within reach of camp are: Gwendoline Mt. (10,200'), Black Fang (9800'), Mt. Harmon (9600'), and Forster Pass overlooking Whirlpool and Thunderwater Lakes. To the south are three unnamed 9000'+ peaks. Bugaboo Glacier Park is about 20 km north.

MAPS: Howser Creek 82K/10 (1:50,000) Maps are available through the Government Agent's Office.

ACCESS:

Up the Duncan River from Kaslo to a rendezvous point on Howser Creek about 3 km NE of the confluence of Rory and Howser Creeks. Camp is about 10 km to the east.

DATES: Camp 1: July 25 - Aug. 1; Camp 2: Aug. 1 - Aug. 8; Camp 3: Aug. 8 - Aug. 15

FEES:

Total: \$225. This includes a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00. Full fees are payable upon registration. Applications accompanied by post-dated cheques will be considered as of the post-date.

TO REGISTER:

Mail or hand-deliver the completed registration form and SIGNED waiver form along with a cheque for the full fee to:

Laurie Charlton

Box 621

Rossland, B.C., V0G 1Y0

Please note that the waiver form must be signed by all members of a family who plan to attend camp. An application will not be considered until the signed waiver form and full payment is received. Phoned registrations will not be accepted.

AGE RESTRICTION:

The minimum age for participants is 15 years as of the date of camp. Members 15 - 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Waivers for juniors must be signed by a parent or legal guardian. Children 19 years of age or older are not included in a family membership so they must complete a separate application form.

PRIORITY:

Vacancies will be filled in the order that applications are received. If a camp roster is full, additional applications will be placed on a waiting list in the order of receipt. Those who have joined or renewed their membership prior to Feb. 1, 1992 will be granted an exclusive 2 month period to register. Following this period, vacancies will be advertised and filled by members who have paid their fees after Feb. 1. NOTE: Participation of "non-Kootenay members may be limited to ensure that enough "locals" are available for food preparation and gear transport.

CANCELLATIONS:

The deposit of \$50 is not refundable. The remaining fee will be refunded if notice is received prior to June 15, 1992. The total fee will be forfeited for cancellations received after June 15 unless a suitable replacement is found. Cancellation vacancies will be filled from the waiting list. If there are no names on the waiting list, the member is responsible for finding a replacement before a refund will be issued. Contact Laurie Charlton before taking action.

ABOUT HIKING CAMP:

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club does not act as a guide service through it's hiking program. Rather, it merely facilitates transportation of members into remote, rugged wilderness areas where one's activities must be governed by the level of experience each possesses in such an environment. Hiking Camp is not for the inexperienced person new to hiking. As the camps are held in a wilderness environment, participants should have some off-trail, backcountry hiking experience, or be a strong trail hiker, to get the most out of camp.

INFORMATION: Laurie Charlton, Box 621, Rossland, B.C., phone 364-9461

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

KOO ENAY MOUN AINEERING

Editor: Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd R.R.1 Nelson, B.C.

Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4

ph/fax: 825-4392

MARCH 1992

Mike Brewster

Next deadline: Mar.20/92

4WD?

352-5666

NEWSLE

MARCH TRIPS:

Mar 1 Goat Creek Peter Mclver 362-9513

Sun Ski with Peter to one of his favourite areas.

Mar 8 Record Ridge Chris Overton 362-7178

Sun A 6 hr trip from Granite Chairlift.

Mar i5 Copper Mountain Eric White 825-4392

Sun

Mar 29

[N.B. Note apres ski social event described below]

Mar 22 Greasybill Creek Bert Port ----365-6056 Page ?

Sun Explore a new area in the Slocan Valley.

Sun

*N.B. The originally scheduled trips for March 8th and 29th have been switched, and are now as shown above. You may want to make this change on your Winter Schedule.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

T.B.A.

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: Thursday, March 12, 7:30 pm at the Knoerr/Schaeffer residence in Castlegar.

APRES SKI GATHERING: Sunday, March 15th from 4:00 pm or so on. At the Issac/Kratkys, 44 Oak Street, Nelson (352-3895). Come and socialize after your day of skiing. Janice will be making a big pot of soup; other food contributions appreciated but not essential. Apres-gardeners, apres-Sunday shoppers and other KMC apres types also welcome.

HIKING CAMP UPDATE:

Applications for hiking camp have been flooding in. Camps 2 and 3 are full. A recent cancellation for Camp 1 means that there are two spaces left, or were as of this writing.

ODDS AND SODS

FOR SALE: San Marco Ski Boots for alpine touring (not telemarking). Soft padded removeable inner, hard plastic outer. Size 9 1/2. Price \$50 or best offer. Call Stan Baker, 359-7346.

A Chilly Winter: Mari Earthy has let me know that Don Mousseau and Naomi Earthy plus children are also in Chile (Ken and Rita Holmes have just headed down there). Don will be working in Chile for 3-4 years. Mari is feeling sorry for herself, and is rashly offering to babysit any surrogate grandchildren she can find. (Ed's note: The line-up starts behind me.)

KMC BASIC MOUNTAINEERING COURSE

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.

wili	fety, rock climbing, glacier travel and crevasse rescu	e.
SCHE	CHEDULE	
1.	Lectures April 15 & 22 at Selkirk College	
2.	Rock Climbing April 29, May 6, 13, 20 & 27 at th	e Kinnaird
-	Bluffs, Castlegar	
3.	Lecture June 3 at Selkirk College	
4.	Snow Practice June 13 at Ymir Bowl	
5.	Snow and Ice June 20 & 21 at Glacier Creek (may	have to change
٠,	Weekend place, depending on conditions)	
-	EQUIREMENTS take this course you should be:	
1.	A KMC member 2. 14 years of age minim	um
	In good physical condition	
FEES		
Club	ub membership: Family \$35	
	Single \$25	
	Junior \$10 (14-18)	
Cour	ourse: \$85.00 (Includes rental of harness, helmet, ice-crampons. A deposit may be required for rental of equ	axe, ípment.)
appl	you are interested in enrolling in this course, pleas oplication form and send a chequie of money order payab octenay Mountaineering Club to: Brad Krysti 2166 8th Ave. Trail, B.C. V1R 3E2	e complete the le to the
lí y	you have any questions, please feel free to call Brad	at 364-2954.
	HERE IS A LIMITED ENROLLMENT. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS	
	Application for KMC Mountaineering Cours	• (Print)
Name	mePhone No	
Addr	ldress	
Adul	lultJunior	
1	am prepared to sign a KMC Indemnity and Release of Lia	hility at the
ıam	am breharen to eigh a vuo indemnitty and veleage of pra	CILICY DC CHE

first session.

Signed:

1992 CLIMBING CAMP

Sally Sarena Group - between Forester and Horsethief Location: Creeks; base camp at head of Serena Creek Map Sheets: 82K/9 and 82K/10 Dates: fly in Saturday July 25; out Monday August 3 Area contains 12 - 13 peaks in the 9500 - 10 000 ft range. of climbing is general mountaineering with serious rock climbing available should you so choose (serious rock climbing is also completely avoidable should you so choose). There are high camp and traverse possibilities from base camp to the west. We would fly in from the Forest Service Campsite at junction of Stockdale and Horsethief Creeks (50 k west of Invermere). The campsite would be a good place to camp Friday night. COST: Anticipated cost \$350. Deposit of \$50 to accompany application. Camp provides breakfasts, dinners, cook and flights. Participants supply own lunches, tents and climbing gear. 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. 1992 CLIMBING CAMP APPLICATION FORM Name _____ Age (if 15-18)_____ Address _____ Phone _____ I require a ride: Yes ____ No _ No _ I can transport passengers: Yes (number?) I have a truck or van which could transport food and/or equipment (we cover costs): Yes ____ No ____

Send with \$50 deposit (payable to Kootenay Mountaineering Club) to: Eric White, 3093 Heddle Rd., R.R.#1, S-11,C-10, Nelson, BC, V1L 5P4

I can help with food preparation: Yes ____ No ___

KMC Box 3195 Castlegar, B.C.

KOO TENAY MOUN TAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd. R.R. 1

Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4 ph/fax: 825-4392

APRIL 1992

You'll find the Summer Trips Schedule in this issue, along with the Guidelines for Trip Coordinators and Participants. Particularly if you are new to the club, please read through the Guidelines. It is on the less technical and more popular summer hikes that we occasionally run into problems -- when the group is large, and wayward hikers head in different directions or turn back without informing the trip coordinator. Most of these problems could be avoided through better communication. Or radio collars.

Meanwhile, the ski touring is still great up there, even if the powder is mushy. And if spring skiing is not sufficiently challenging and energetic for you, try folk dancing at the KMC Spring Dinner April 24th. No crampons allowed on the dance floor.

LAST OF THIS SEASON'S SKI TOURS:

Apr 5 Sun	Salmo Creston Summit Great touring with easy road		350-7440
Apr 12 Sun	Mt. Brennan Long trip (6000' vertical).	Roland Perrin Start early. Be fit	
Apr 26 Sun	Greasybill area Dave has just returned from rediscovering snow.	Dave Toews S.E. Asia. and is Rotand Perrin 352	
May 3 Sun	Qua Creek Basin Easy access and great telema snow conditions.	Howie Ridge rking, but trip wi	

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

KMC SPRING BANQUET: Friday April 24th, 7:00 pm Robson Hall, in Robson Townsite (see map Next page) MENU: Potluck supper

People with surnames that begin with:

A - G: Please bring a delicious dessert

H - L: Please bring a scintillating salad

M - Z: Please bring a scrumptious main course.

ENTERTAINMENT: We have invited a folk dance instructor to teach us a variety of ethnic folk dances, so be prepared to bump shoulders, step on each other's feet, and laugh. Feel free to come in your own ethnic dress.

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: Tuesday May 5th.



HIKING CAMP UPDATE: All camps are full.

CLIMBING CAMP UPDATE: 11 keeners have expressed interest so far (8 have even sent money) for the 1992 Climbing Camp in the Sally Sarena Group, July 25 to August 3rd. Still room for more. Send in your application forms (included in last issue) to Eric White.

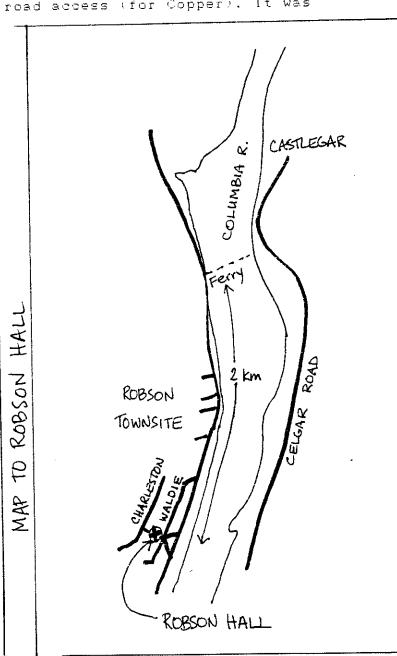
TRIP REPORTS

March 15, 1992 Five Mile Basin/kutetl Creek

Eric White's scheduled trip to Copper Mountain was sabotaged by tennis elbow (for Eric) and poor road access (for Copper). It was

reincarnated as Fred Thiessen's trip into Five Mile Basin. Five of us left the Whitewater Ski Area parking lot at 8:00 am, climbed on boilerplate and frozen ruts to the ridge, and traversed the southeast end of Five Mile Basin. I whined about the joys of trying to hold an edge while traversing steep ice. We boothiked up steep show to a notch in the ridge that accessed the Kutetl Creek drainage. The ski down the east-facing slopes was suprisingly great, and by following Fred's nose we ended up at the Kutetl Cabin for lunch (I can never figure out how we find it >. We returned to the ski area via Ymir Bowl, where the torty-year-olds on telemark skis made the grave mistake of following the fearless 16year-old on touring gear down vertical gullies. A good day, and back to the cars by 3:30 p.m.

Vivien Bowers We were: Fred Thiessen, Peter McIver, Vivien, Lee Boyer, Todd Anthony.



March 29, 1992 Mount Spiers 8200 ft.

knowing that it hadn't snowed for 3 weeks, we hoped that the Grizzly Road was still open. So, on March 29th, those of us with season's passes to the Grizzly Creek Ski Touring area set off. As it turned out, we were able to drive right to our regular parking lot at 5500 ft. at Grizzly/Ladybird pass. We toured to the base of Mt. Spiers. and skied up the West ridge to about 200 feet from the top. From here it was an easy walk up. We skied down the South face which had just softened up, which gave us a fabulous spring snow run. We were back at the Cruiser at 1200 for lunch and a beer. A great spring touring day, warm and sunny with good spring snow. It was a 1.5 hour drive from Nelson to where we parked, and a 4 hour trip to the peak and back.

It looks like this road will not snow in, so if one is looking for a good spring touring location, give this area a try. Easy day trips are Mt. Spiers and Stanley. If one wanted a long day trip, Fred Thiessen Airy Mountain is a possibility.

We were: Roland Perrin, Dave Toews and F. Thiessen.

Trip report from Jane Steed in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, 1992.

I climbed a mountain in Mexico, and so did the horse I was on! One of the most attractive features of San Miguel de Allende is the huge open plain (between low mountain ranges) on which the small city is located. All that space evokes an immediate response - great horse country! (Mind you, that could conditioned by watching visual cliches in westerns). However, it does send a visitor in search of a stable and a guide. Four gringos, one experienced, set out.

Our first outing was a short venture around the base of the hills, through creek beds, past goats, cattle, cactus and horses. Our second ride (on my decidedly unilingual mount "Arete") took us to the summit, about 8200 ft. Not exactly on trails, either. [left the navigating to the horse, because I could scarcely take my eyes off the vast plain before us, stretching for hundreds of miles all around. Talk of big sky! The rocky terrain is a challenge for shod horses but they found a way, over or around or through.

"I'll look at the scenery, you concentrate on the trail." With these words I exhorted my nimble-footed, elastic-ankled mount during the descent. Looking down was scary, I expect my face had a good workout that day because I was grimacing so much! In the home stretch, the pace quickened and I pretended I knew how to ride. I also pretended I once walked with ease as I dismounted after four hours in the saddle. The tricky part found us using our total supply of barely survival Spanish to pay the bill (about \$50 each). All parted happily, looking forward to another ride.

Jane Steed in S.M.A.

ODDS AND SODS

- KMC has a new Conservation Chairperson -- Kim Deane. He's currently finding his way around the portfolio and setting up a committee. Rim is no newcomer to the RMC -- he headed the club when it first began as the Kootenay Section of the Alpine Club of Canada, in 1964.

Many thanks to outgoing Chairperson **Ric Bivar**, who wrote and presented several submissions, letters and such on our behalf. We appreciate the time you put in and the work you did for the club.

- Pieps rental: At the March executive meeting, it was decided to set rental rates for the club's tranceivers at \$5.00/day (\$20/week) for general members, and at $$2.50/\mathrm{day}$ (\$10/week) for students. Non-members may only rent transceivers while on club trips.
- The **Karabiner** will be out in late April or early May. Editor Lee Schaeffer says he could use a few more good photographs. He's at 365-7779.

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

KOO ENAY MOUN AINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd. R.R. 1 Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4 ph/fax: 825-4392

JUNE 1992 Next deadline: June 20th

This issue is somewhat late -- life is spinning out of control, as usual. What is it about May that makes it a good time to do absolutely everything?

You'll find a revised version of the Summer Trips Schedule with this issue. The later I am with the newsletter, the more Bob Dean feels he has to revise this schedule, trying valiantly to keep up with the ever-changing plans of trip organizers. This must be about the fifth version (or is it fifteenth?). I'll spare Bob the agony of yet another revision by getting this newsletter out. Please replace your current Summer Trips Schedule Page 1 with this latest, best, revised version. Page 2 doesn't need revising. Yet.

The next newsletter will be out at the beginning of July, and that's it until September. Keep those trip reports coming in. Thanks.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: June 9th, 7:00 pm, at the Knoerr/Schaeffer residence. We'll be discussing constitutional revisions. With enthusiasm.

CLIMBING CAMP UPDATE: Camp is full, with 25 participants.

TRIP REPORTS

April 12, 1992 Mt. Brennan, 9500'

The Mt. Brennan outing was successful this year. We left Retallack at 0615 and walked to the Lyle Creek road where we could finally leave our skis on. From here, it was a straightforward and long tour to the summit on boiler plate and frozen snow. The last 500 ft. was in the clouds, but while we were having lunch it cleared off. Our run down was the best ever on Mt. Brennan. With the sun coming out at noon, the snow had just softened and we had a great run down. I think that for this time of year, the best time to ski down would be right around noon, which means that the time to start



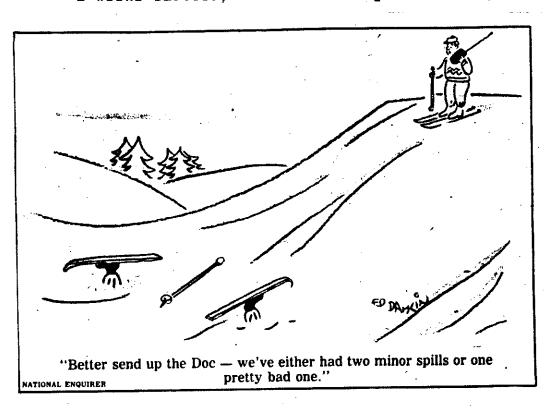
is about 0500, which is pretty early, since it takes 5.5 - 6 hrs to the top. Something to think about for next year.

Fred Thiessen We were: Peter McIver, Dave Mitchell and Fred Thiessen. Our success ratios on the spring Mt. Brennan trip were: Peter 0.5, Dave 1.0, and Fred 0.5.

April 19, 1992

Mt. Airy, 8378'

Having scouted out the route to Mt. Airy on our Mt. Spiers trip 2 weeks earlier, we decided to give Mt. Airy a go on Easter Sunday.



We parked at out usual place at the end of Grizzly Creek (5500'), leaving the Landcruiser at about 0745 hours. We started up a logging road that ended just south of Mt. Spiers, then up a slide chute, which lead us to a small lake. From the lake we turned south to a cel at 7600'. From the col we skied to the south ridge of Mt. Airy, then around into the basin south of the peak. To our

surprise, we were able to ski onto the south ridge to about 400' below the peak. From here we walked up, gaining the peak shortly after 12. Our descent was on slushy snow, from a storm two days earlier. It could best be described as water skiing behind a boat that didn't have quite enough horsepower to get you right out of the water. It was challenging skiing. Despite the difficulty, we were drinking beer at the Cruiser at 1600 hours.

A good ski mountaineering outing. I also think the map is not terribly accurate for this area. The ridge we went up on doesn't show on the map.

Fred Thiessen

We were: Eric White, Roland Perrin, Peter McIver (CEO), and Fred Thiessen.

Slocan Lake Trail to Evans Creek

May 10, 1992

This annual hike to Evans Creek was a great way to spend Mother's Day. The comfortable hiking weather, great company, sunny rest breaks and abundance of spring wild flowers made the trip very enjoyable. The spring waterflow down Evans Creek and over the falls was spectacular. The hiking time from Slocan City to Pebble Beach was 1.5 hrs, and from Pebble Beach to Evans Creek - 1 hr.

Carol Potasnyk

The eight on the hike were: Dave Adams, Hazel Arnold, Jane Steed, Mary Martin, Polly Samoyloff, Joanne?, Don?, Carol Potasnyk.

May 17, 1992

Sproule Creek

Not only the "spectacular" high-altitude trips are enjoyable to some members, but also the hikes through the woods along the creek with many flowers along its banks.

Eleven of us hiked on the Sproule Creek trail, which now has many bridges crossing back and forth across the creek for 5 km., ending in a beautiful meadow, where we had our lunch. The weather was beautiful, the surroundings pleasant and the company compatible. What else can one want?

Anna Thyer

May 23, 1992

Ymir Mountain Traverse

This trip was scheduled for 24 May, but as the leader couldn't make it that day, it was shifted to 23 May. Of the people who had asked about the trip up to the previous day, only one could go on the Saturday, but the trip went ahead nevertheless.

Starting from Whitewater Ski Lodge at 0730, we took the usual route up the Yankee Girl ski run to the ridge. This was the earliest date in the season that I had tried this route. Fortunately most of the new snow had gone off the rock, but there were still remnants of the winter's cornices on the rock ridges, making them more challenging. Having reached the summit about noon, we found, from the summit register, that we were not the first summiteers of the season, and that the book was full. (Any volunteers to take up a new one?)

We then descended, mostly on snow, along the NW ridge to the Mother Lode ski run. No flowers were blooming there yet, and the larch trees were only beginning to bud into leaf. We were lucky to have clear, dry, and partly cloudy weather.

Participants were David Cunningham and Norman Thyer.

The northwest ridge has the potential for a nice summer hike from the ski lodge. Any volunteers to clear a trail? Also, for the ambitious, there's a possibility of a "marathon-scale" traverse of the Ymir Mountain ridge starting from Hummingbird Pass and White Queen, and ending at the corresponding point on the Whitewater Road. Half-Dome could offer some rock-climbing practice.

Norman Thyer

FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEETING, MAY 14TH

- Bert Port has been pursuing the issue of access to the Kinnaird Bluffs on the KMC's behalf. He's been investigating whether the Bluffs might be included in Castlegar's upcoming plan for green areas, and whether the current owners of the Bluffs are willing to subdivide and sell off the rock climbing section of their property. In the meantime, a reminder ...

IF YOU GO CLIMBING AT THE KINNAIRD BLUFFS, PLEASE RECOGNIZE THAT THE BLUFFS ARE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND, IF YOU DECIDE TO TRESPASS, RESPECT THE PROPERTY. LEAVE NO LITTER AND DO NO DAMAGE.

- A sub-committee has been formed to look into the thorny issue of legal liability during club activities. The club has received one copy and is ordering a couple more of <u>Outdoor Pursuits Programming:</u> <u>Legal Liability and Risk Management</u>, which gives the subject an thorough and depressing treatment.

ODDS AND SODS

Parks/Wilderness 90s: Update from Fred Thiessen:

On May 6 the provincial government announced the next step in the Park/Wilderness for the 90's initiative. The announcement stated that 18 areas would be studied here in the Kootenays for their potential as park or wilderness. Some of the areas that we would be familiar with that are going to be studied are: The Gold Range, a revision of the Bugaboo Recreation Area boundaries, Lake of the Hanging Glacier, Clemenceau Icefields, the Sir Sandford/Adamant Ranges, the Goat Range, the Carney Creek drainage, and an addition to Assiniboine Provincial Park. Most of the studies are timelimited with respect to when government will make a decision on the area. Of the 18 areas in the Kootenays, 13 are to have decisions made on them by December, 1995. The KMC will be involved in the studies as they progress. The objective of the studies is to assess the values of all the areas and present options to the Provincial Cabinet for decision. If you are interested in the map brochure indicating all the study areas in the province or just the ones here in the Kootenays, write or phone the Forest Service at 518 Lake Street, Nelson, BC, V1L 4C6. Phone 354-6200. Copies of the maps are also at the KMC Library, housed at the Ports in Castlegar.

*** to Overnight in Kokanee Glacier Park: Starting July 1st, there will be a \$2 fee for camping overnight in Kokanee Glacier Park. Parks people are still working out the details, but it will be a self-registration system, probably with envelopes and a deposit box set up at the various entrances to the park, each envelope having a tear off tab that campers carry with them. Overnight fees are already collected in other provincial parks, such as Cathedral Lakes and Assiniboine.

Karabiners: You should by now have received your 1991 KMC Karabiner. Editors Susan Knoerr and Lee Schaeffer report that they have some extra copies of the previous two years' issues, should anyone like one. They're at 365-7779.

"If I must be 60, then celebrate!" says Jane Steed, who invites members to a big mid-summer birthday party at her place on July 1, Dominion Day. Outdoors, dancing (she hopes folk dancing with Ariel), beach camp fire afternoon and evening, croquet, swimming, frisbee - what have you! If people are in the area, drop by. Park on the road.

Dave Adams has a new address: Box 53, South Slocan, BC, VOG 2GO. Phone is 359-8112.

Interested in occasional rock climbing practice? Call Norman Thyer at 352-3262 (check).

Further to the above, Mountaineering School coordinator Brad Kryski plans to organize drop-in climbing sessions for members at the Bluffs early in the season next year.

Wanted: An inexpensive, used 4-6 person tent suitable for family car camping. Call Carol at 354-4437.

For Sale: Scarpa hiking boots, 41 M Women's (Size 9), in good shape, worn for 2 hiking camps. \$100 (worth \$245 retail new). Shirley Bonney, 229-4705.

For Sale: Galibier climbing boots. Women's size 8. Call Steve Horvath, 362-3565

Found by Sue Port in the Canadian Alpine Journal, vol. 22, 1933:

MODERN ICE CLIMBING EQUIPMENT:

Tent-sack. Invented several years ago to lessen the dangers of forced bivouacs, this device seems to have proved itself a great success. The claim is made that it almost always affords enough protection to exclude the possibility of freezing....

... To use the tent-sack a party goes into a huddle, with their equipment at their feet, and pull the bag down over their heads. Thereupon they all sit down together and tuck the edges in under them. The sack rests upon their heads and shoulders; two persons facing each other can make it take the form of a tent, with room for a cookstove between them. ... The greatest trouble, even with the window, seems to be lack of air (which some parties have appreciated only when matches refused to burn!), and it may be necessary at times, it is said, to throw the bag off for a moment and start in all over again.

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

KOO ENAY MOUN AINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd. R.R. 1 Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4 ph/fax: 825-4392

SUMMER 1992 Next deadline: August 20th

Summertime....when the living is easy and nobody really cares when the newsletter editor gets around to producing the newsletter, right?

SUMMER TRIPS

There's one change to your pink summer schedule (included with the last newsletter) for trips planned this summer:

August 29/30 - Mary Baker's Blue Grouse Basin trip is a weekend jaunt (not a one-day hike, as in the schedule), and she classes it as A-2. Mary's number is 368-5530.

ALTERNATE TRIPS?

A look at the 1992 KMC summer trips schedule shows many of the same day trip destinations as in other years. In the interest of introducing some variety, I would like to make some suggestions. Mt. Ruppel and Arlington Peak would make easy day trips with scarcely any bushwhacking. These peaks are accessible by the Lemon Creek - Crusader Creek road system. If you are interested in information about access, times, etc., please give me a call at 352-3895.

Kim Kratky

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

Annual June Picnic: (What wasn't back in June shall be in September) The picnic has been rescheduled for Friday September 11th, 5:00 onwards. At Syringa Creek Park -- meet at the playground in the campground area.

Bring your own food, drink, barbeque, games... recount your summer adventures... relax with friends... this time it won't rain, guaranteed.



TRIP REPORTS

May 31, 1992

Red Mountain (Rossland Range)

It's not a technically challenging mountain (unless you're skiing down "the Cliff") but it's a useful A-1 warm-up for the season (1500' vertical, on all trails) and there are lots of interesting things to see. Twenty-one people turned out to have a look.

We climbed up through the remains of the old mine workings, being very careful to stay on old roads and railway right-of-ways and avoiding the many well-signed areas where there is danger of cave-ins, It was a new dimension in route finding! We considered roping up! Then we climbed above the last of the old mines to examine clear cutting, more recent open pit mining and, at the very top, antenna arrays fit for a battleship. Red Mountain hasn't been wilderness for a long time. From the top, we recce'd future club outings; Lake Mountain to the south, Record Ridge to the west and the Snow Survey site: and were treated to the rather rare sighting of a Mountain Bluebird pair courting on the chairlift cable ... very romantic. All the exploring of Rossland's history led to consideration of the legend of the Flying Steamshovel and an onsite inspection of the pub of the same name.

Garth Thomson

June 7, 1892 Frye Creek Canyon

Seventeen of us met at Balfour at 7:00 a.m. and we added three more to our group at Kaslo. We arrived at the trailhead (0.4 mile beyond the Community Hall at Johnson's Landing) at 9:00 a.m. We headed on up the trail alongside the creek which was roaring down at its peak through the canyon. After a few water and snack breaks along the way, we crossed the rock slide and lunched on the beach at approximately the four mile mark. A few of us explored beyond this point for 1/2 mile or so but the trail began to fade out at this point as the Parks Branch has only been able to clear up to the rock slide area so far this year. On our way back four of us walked down to and along the lake (Frye Creek Beach) which eventually led us to the Community Hall and back to the cars at 4:30 p.m.

Kathy Hendron We were: L & M Carefoot, B. Dean, M. Woodward, R. Neumar, L.&M.

Heximer, A. Quarterman, R. Henderson (alias Neil), N., K.&B. Morris, P. Samoyloff, D. Sissons, J. Steed, D. Shadbolt, J. Cunningham, N. Sinclair, C. Murphy and K. Hendron.

June 21, 1992

Lake Mountain

A well attended trip with 14 people taking part. Our route was to drive the Malde Creek Forest road, then a B.C. Hydro powerline road to Grouse Ridge. The other Subaru owners were surprised (pleasantly, I hope) to find out what their vehicles are capable of. The walk around the ridge to Lake Mountain takes four or five hours return - long enough on a hot day such as we had.

Chris Overton

Lady Macbeth

July 11/12

This trip completed an earlier one to Lady Macbeth that was foiled by bad weather. Actually, this outing was supposed to be to Cranberry Mountain, but the leader didn't want to drive 300 miles round trip to do a recce. Besides, he was now most familiar with the approach to Lady Macbeth -- slide alder, rhododendron, and bog. Four people showed up for the ramble: Dave Cunningham, Dave Mitchell, Bert Port and Kim Kratky. Bert and Kim reached the 9480' summit above the north bank of Glacier Creek after a 7 1/2 hour approach. In sum, it was a 13 1/2 hour day; I believe that under Fred Thiessen's grading system that's a "low-grade ordeal." More in the Karabiner.

July 15 Headwaters of Crawford Creek

Ten people enjoyed an outing to the Crawford-Bernard pass area on a sunny weekday in mid-July. All ten made it to the alpine lakes at 6600' and seven went on to the summit of the unnamed 8200' peak on the east side of the pass. By dawdling along, we managed to stretch out outing to nearly nine hours, including an hour's lounge on the summit. On the trip were Brigitte Massot, Debbie Jervis-Legate, Brenda Hornby, Margeurite Beauchamp, Bert Port, Sue Port, Ray Suomi, Bob Dean, Christian Langezaal (visiting from Holland), and Kim Kratky.

July 18/19 Pigeon Spire 10250'

This outing scheduled for July 4/5 was cancelled due to weather and rescheduled for those who were still interested on July 19/19, when the weather forecast was better.

On Saturday we drove up Howser/Rory Creek to the parking lot at 5000' feet. From here we went up the slide path, meadows, moraines and glacier which led to the Howser/Thimble col where we camped. On Sunday we were up early and travelled the fog across the upper reaches of the Bugaboo Glacier to the Pigeon/Howser col. From the col it was an hour to the summit which we reached at 0830. Our descent was a retrace of our ascent route and we were back at the cars at 1500 hours.

In looking at our times, it would be feasible to climb Pigeon Spire as a day trip where one parks the cars in Rory Creek. Here are the times we had.

- 4.5 hrs Parking area to Howser/Thimble col
- 1.75 hrs Howser/Thimble col to base of Pigeon
- 3 hrs Return trip to summit and back to base
- 1.5 hrs Base of Pigeon to Howser/Thimble col
- 3 hrs Howser/Thimble to parking lot
- 14 hrs Total, and about 6500 vertical feet

If one wanted a shorter day, there is a good campsite about 1.5

hrs from the parking lot at 2100 m which would shorten the time by 2.5 hrs and by 1500 vertical ft.

We were Tina Zimmerman, Rob Summerville, Larry Smith, Chris Overton and Fred Thiessen.

Fred Thiessen

July 22 Gibson Lake to Slocan Chief Cabin

In spite of a grim CBC weather forecast, 21 of us met at 8:00 am and set off up the hill. As it turned out the rain held off until we were lunching at the cabin and we only had a short-lived, light rain on the way down. The flowers were beautiful and it was particularly delightful walking along the meadow and brooks between Kokanee Lake and Kokanee Pass, where we also visited with a seemingly tame marmot. It approached Garth's hand looking for handouts. A few people walked up to Smuggler's Ridge and back, and three others went up and over the ridge and joined back on the trail at Kokanee Pass. A few of the group also stopped at Kaslo for a quick dip. [?]

The trail is in excellent shape, thanks in part to John Carter and his crew who were working when we passed through. A pleasant time was had by all and we arrived back at the parking lot at 4:30 pm where Anna Thyer treated us all to some of her delicious homemade lemon loaf!

We were: B. Dean, M. Beauchamp, R. Henderson, H. Kjeidgaard, R. Legg, D. Jervis-Legat, L. Charlton, G. Thomson, F. Thomson, K. Apel, J. Cunningham, N. Sinclair, A. Thyer, L. Thyer, C. Fraser, A. Fraser, C. Lee, M. Woodward, P. Samoyloff, R. Sheppard and K. Hendron.

CLEARWATER CREEK TO HUCKLEBERRY/YMIR CREEKS

Many people seem to know about this route, but there is some uncertainty about the road connections over the pass. On July 8th Ray Suomi and I rode our mountainbikes from the Clearwater Creek parking lot through the back roads to Ymir and back to Clearwater via Highway 6.

Here's a brief route description with approximate times from the carpark. Start up the Clearwater Crk. road. Cross Qua Crk. on a broken bridge and regain road upstream (30 mins). Continue along Clearwater to the SE and cross it at a ford (1 hr). Carry on along the road, ascending a series of switchbacks to 4,900', which is the height of the Huckleberry-Clearwater pass. At the right-hand end of one of these switchbacks (1 hr. 30 min.) follow a less-used road that contours back to the right or W toward the pass. This section has a score of deadfalls and as many mudholes but isn't really bad even with a bike. Soon you will descend into the Huckleberry Crk. basin, pass the deadfall zone, and roll on down to Ymir Crk.

Clearwater Crk. to Ymir - 3 hrs. Elevation gain - 1,900'. Allow another 45 min. to an hour for the return to Clearwater. Total trip time - 4 hrs. This trip, or parts of it would be suitable for either summer or winter.

ODDS AND SODS

Kootenay Centre for Experiential Education: Laura Adams, Managing Director of the Kootenay Centre for Experiential Education, writes to offer KMC members a 30% discount on any program from the centre's summer offerings. The Nelson-based centre is running courses in rock skills, mountain skills, backpacking and such. Laura writes:

The Kootenay Centre is a special place where people are coming together to share, to grow in their own time, and to experience the enjoyment derived from exploring the unknown and confronting the unexpected. We hope that some members of the Kootenay Mountaineering CLub can be part of that experience. A program of particular interest to parents may be the WindWalker Wilderness Camps for young people occurring in the Valhalla Range in August.

Laura has sent me a few brochures, or you can contact the Centre at: Site 9, C-28, R.R.1, 2309 Willow Point, Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4. Phone is 825-9262, Fax is 352-6499.

Lost Your Shades? Did anyone leave a pair of black sunglasses, taped up on one arm, at Eric White's 40th birthday bash? If so phone 825-4392.

Navigation Notes

Have you been navigating with your compass and found that maybe your navigation was a bit off?

The 1991 declinations for Geophysics Division in Ottawa are now out. There are significant changes to the declinations that are given on most of the 1:50 000 NTS maps, which in many cases are more than 10 years old. Here are the new declinations to enter into your compass, depending on where you are. If you want to keep track of it all over time, there are 60 minutes in a degree.

Location	Declir (Deg.	nation Min.)	1993	1994	Annual Change (Minutes)
Castlegar	19 29	E	16 - 16	19-09	6.7 West
Cranbrook	19 00	E	18-47	18-40	6.6 West
Creston	19 02	E	18-49	18-42	6.5 West
Golden	20 23	E	20-03	20-00	7.5 West
Invermere	19 38	E	19-24	19-17	7.1 West
Kaslo	19 35	E	19-21	19-14	6.9 West
Mica Creek	21 18	Ε	21-02	20-54	8.0 West
Nakusp	20 01	E	19-47	19-40	7.1 West
Nelson	19 28	E	19-15	14-08	6.7 West
Revelstoke	20 33	E	20-18	20-10	7.5 West
Sparwood	18 46	E	(8-33	18-26	6.7 West

Fred Thiessen

KMC Box 3195 Castlegar, B.C.

KOO TENAY MOUN TAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd. R.R. 1 Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4

ph/fax: 825-4392

SEPTEMBER 1992 Next deadline: Sept. 20/92

SEPTEMBER TRIPS:

Sept 6-7 Tzar Pk C-3 (10 h drive X 2) Fred Thiessen 352-6140 Sept 6 Mt. Baldy B-2

Sept 13 Mt Davies (n of Mt. Brennan) B-2 Joan Harvey 352-5666 [Mt. Prestly trip cancelled]

Sept 19-20 Monica Meadows B-2 (with other possible destinations, farther afield, depending on the will of the group)

Ric Bivar

352-5616 -car canya at Sept 20 Mt. Carlyle B-2

Sept 26-27 Mt Loki C-3 Robin Lidstone 825-4260 [Wolf Lake/Three Sisters trip cancelled]

Evening Star Pk (Silver Spray) B-2 Vivien Bowers 825-4392 0ct 4 Oct 4 Unnamed peak n of Dolly Varden C-3 Larry Smith 359-7965

*N.B. Trip leaders originally scheduled to lead these trips are unable to do so. If you are willing to lead a trip, please contact Bob Dean (359-7759). Also, as of my deadline for this newsletter. it wasn't clear whether Robin Lidstone would be available to lead the Sept 26-27 trip.

Some Statistics

A reply to Kim Kratky's observation about the 1992 Summer Trips Schedule as reported in the last newsletter: There are 40 day trips in this Schedule.

Of these 40, 7 are repeats from 1991 and, of these 7, 6 were by request of the leader.

Six of the 1992 trips are repeats from 1990 and, again, of these, 4 were requested by the leader.

This leaves 30 trips that were not scheduled in the last two years (3 were on all 3 years) and of these 30 there are 13 which, as far as 1 can recoilect, have never been done as club trips before.

cont....



Fri right

Glac. Crk. Dune, hake I am not aware of any previous schedule which has contained as many "new" trips but please correct me if I am wrong.

Some of the trips on the schedule are, admittedly, easy hikes, but it is difficult to find suitable destinations early in the spring and late in the fall and many of the easier trips prove to be very popular. The next Summer Trips Chairman will need another 40 destinations for 1993 and another 40 for 1994 and so it goes on!

Submitted by Bob Dean (Summer Trips chairman 1991 & 1992)

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

NEXT KMC EXECUTIVE MEETING: September 15th, 7:30 pm at the Knoerr/Schaeffer residence in Castlegar.

ANNUAL JUNE PICNIC (HELD OVER UNTIL SEPTEMBER): Friday September 11th, 5:00 p.m. onwards at Syringa Creek Provincial Park (meet at the playground in the campground area. Bring food, drink, barbecue, games, kids see you there!

SUMMER CAMPS SLIDE SHOW - Friday October 2, 7:30 pm at the Robson Hall. Robson. The best of the climbing and hiking camps slides. Everyone welcome. Come watch Paul Allen perform pirouettes while leading a 5.99 pitch; see what Larry Doell can do with the 400 pounds of camera equipment he hauled up to the Catamount Glacier. ... and much more!

N.B. <u>CAMP LEADERS</u>: Please be sure to collect up slides and prepare your camp's contribution to the slide show, or delegate accordingly.

CLIMBING SCHOOL REPORT

Lotsa headaches, so much to do, nervous, first lecture, relax, nice people, lots to teach, watch Bert, watch the movie, first rock, lotsa rain, great instructors, sun, good climbing, lotsa fun, big rappells, little to fear, lecture, gearing up, the Fred show, bonus slides, Ymir, lotsa rain, arresting day, hot coffee, warm smiles, Glacier Creek, wow! good weather, small crevasse, large good time, heavenly summits, porcupines from hell, lost ice-axe, found friends!

My thank to Bert Port, Fred Thiessen, Ross Breakwell, Larry Smith, Peter Tohir. Eric White, Steve Horvath, George Apel, Paul Allen, Howie Ridge. Geoff Millar and David Bristow. Congratulations to Peter, Bert and Steve on winning the rirst annual instructor's prize draw. Thank to the class for their enthusiasm, courage, and for their "card" to all of us. As I drink good elderberry wine and think about wrapping my truck in my new chicken wire, I don't remember it as a school, it was a blast.

Sincerely, Brad P.S. Next year!

TRIP REPORTS

July 12, 1992

SAPPHIRE LAKES/SUNSET MTN

Twenty hikers set out on the Lemon Creek Trail. The group soon split into two groups, with six accompanying me on the Lemon Creek trail directly to Sapphire Lakes. Bob Dean led the rest of the group up the Nilsik Creek Trail, to the Sunset Mtn summit and returned via the Lemon Creek trail.

The day began with a beautiful, cloudless sky - which perhaps explains the great turnout for this hike. Then a very unusual thing happened. The weather actually behaved as predicted by the weather forecasters and by early afternoon we had some pretty heavy showers. Fortunately, these lasted for only an hour or so, giving us a chance to dry out.

On the trip were Evan McKenzie, Mary Baker, Kathy Hendren, Dan Gray, Judy Crosfield, John Stewart, Earl Jorgensen, Jennie Baillee, Sarah McEwan, Peter Wilson, Garth Thompson, Elaine Martin, Thom Volpatti, Norm Thyer, Lea Stabile, Bob Dean, Erin and April Andersen, and Tony Heim.

August 3, 1992

TEXAS PEAK

The originally scheduled trip to Mt. Grohman was changed at the last minute to Texas Peak. A recce up the Monument Creek Road was foiled by a yarder and a high-lead logging show blocking the road. Rave reviews about the Reco Mtn. trip (July 29) were enough to convince the leader to re-route the Grohman trip to Texas Peak. This peak is adjacent to Reco.

Seven of us travelled up an old mining road in Bob Dean's truck which doubled as a "laundaulet," to "Curley's Cabin," a foul smelling cabin up Stenson Creek. From there we crossed a small meadow, up a scree slope to an easy grassy draw to an easy grassy slope. This was home to an (unseen) bear who had been doing some excavation. At the ridge, we could see the other side was all scree. There was one false peak to cross, then up the ridge to the top of Texas Peak.

For expediency, or to save a few calories (kilojoules?). some of the party decided to traverse the scree to bypass the false peak. This resulted in some expenditure of nervous energy, probably exceeding the energy saved by skirting the false peak!

Reunited at the col, we walked up to Texas Peak for lunch, about three hours after starting. The weather was very good, and most of the major peaks and the Kokanee Glacier were clearly visible. After the usual discussion of ladybird mating habits, we headed down to the vehicle. There is a pack trail at the bottom of the first grassy draw we ascended, which meant we did not have to descend the first scree slope.

Dave Mitchell

The group included: Bob Dean, Bob Smithson, Kathy Hendren, Ray and Trimo Suomi. Christine Sutherland, and David Mitchell.

August 12, 1992

MT. RETALLAC

Eleven of us met for this hike at South Slocan (Playmor Junction). We drove as far as we could up the Enterprise Creek Road - definitely 4-wheel drive country for the last 3-4 kilometers. A B-2 hike? Closer to a B-2.5! There was a lot of bushwhacking and scrambling, but all managed to reach the peak or a ridge by 2:00 for a magnificent 360 degree view. The waterfall and small lake at the valley bottom provided a refreshing dip for some and about half od us met for supper at the Duck Stop at 8:00.

Ray Newmar On the trip were: Pam Jenkins, Dennis Sims, Norm and Anna Thyer, Pauline from Ottawa, Bob Dean, Ray Newmar, Lee Boyer, Mary Woodward, David S., Kevin Forsyth.

ODDS AND SODS

KMC CLIMBING CAMP LOST AND FOUND DEPARTMENT: Fred and Larry have gone all through the gear and have found some extra stuff. In particular they have found: One green mug (orange tape on handle), one colorful mug (Castlegar Plumbing and Heating), a lid for a drinking while you drive mug, some cutlery with green tape. one set of cutlery with orange tape around it, and some other odd bits of stuff. Contact Fred at 3532-6140 to pick it up.

AND HIKING CAMP LOST AND FOUND: One earring (a sleeper with a pearl) was found during Camp 3. Contact Ineke Bult (368-9810).

CLIMBING CAMP THANKS: Eric thanks all those who helped organize and prepare for this year's climbing camp.

FLY THE WIND!! - BY PARAPENTE (PARAGLIDER): Two professional instructors may be visiting Nelson and would give introductory instruction or tandem flights if there is sufficient interest - say, three or four people.

Both hold French certification, are highly experienced in paragliding both in Europe and Canada, and provide effective and enjoyable instruction with strong emphasis on safety.

If anyone is interested, they can call ROBIN LIDSTONE at 825-4260 for further details and information.

WANTED: The Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C. (FMCBC), of which the KMC is a member, is looking for volunteers willing to be spokespeople for specific areas that have been proposed under the province's "Parks and Wilderness for the 90s" program. The FMCBC will be lobbying the government in support of designating parks and wilderness areas, but it needs help from individuals who know the specific area(s) under consideration, are familiar with the issues involved, and can liaise with FMCBC and help them with their lobbying efforts. Kootenay areas that are under study

include the White Grizzly wilderness area in the Goat Range, the Lake of the Hanging Glacier, and the Carney Creek drainage (an extension of the Purcell Wilderness). Another proposal is to change the Purcell Wilderness Area to a Wilderness Park.

If you are willing to be a spokesperson for one of these areas, please contact Peter McIver (362-9513), or Susan Knoerr while Peter is away in September (365-7778).

CONGRATULATIONS to KMC member Jim Mattice, whose poem "Antarctica 1911" was 5th place winner in the Awards of Poetic Excellence poetry contest. This is a U.S. contest that receives thousands of entries. Jim's poem will be published in the 1992 Fail edition of Poetic Voices of America.

Antarctica 1911

The wind is alone here And comes to visit like a pilgrim At a desolate shrine. No birds fly, this place is oceanless, motionless. Almost transparent polar plains. North is South with meridians embracing here Man-made on maps. But Amundsen comes with his men, three sledges. Like black dots on paper. The skiis sighing over snow, the Greenland dogs pulling In their traces, ice on their faces. A tent and markers remain behind for Scott to find. His men man-haul, disappointed at the Pole. Doomed to death on every returning step. Amundsen races to Franheim on the Ross sea For not corree. Scott starves and dies in his sleep to be Found next year only ten miles From one-ton depot with the world in tears. Raoul, you are the best But somehow forgotten.

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

KOO TENAY MOUN TAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Editor: Vivien Bowers 3093 Heddle Rd. R.R. 1 Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P4 ph/fax: 825-4392

OCT/NOV 1992

IT'S ALL TRUE, the rumours you heard about climbing camp while sitting around the approved fire burning device at hiking camp! At climbing camp they really do have breakfasts at 3:00 a.m., do marathon 18-hour climbs, shun rest days, form climbing cliques that discourage outsiders, and have egos the size of boulders. AND IT'S ALL TRUE, what they say at climbing camp about hiking camp. At hiking camp, they sit on funny three-legged stools, camp leaders inspect participants' fingernails every morning, no-one drinks anything stronger than tea, and everyone dresses up in silly costumes on the last night. ("As long as they make you dress up, you won't see ME at hiking camp!") IT'S ALL TRUE!

I'm just warming you up for Norm's comments later in this issue about the hiking vs climbing polarization. Also, this is a Special Constitutional Issue of the newsletter. (Hey, we know how to jump on bandwagons). Happy reading!

LAST OF THIS SEASON'S HIKES:

Mt. Ludlow B-2 Oct 25

Mike Brewster 365-7653

Mt. Sentinel A-1 Scheduled leader can't make it, but if Nov 1 you are interested in this trip call Bob Dean at 359-7759

Ray Neumar Nov 8 Copper Mt B-1 (or elsewhere, depending on conditions)

352-7042

365-6474 Polly Samoyloff

*** COMING UP: Winter Trips Schedule in the December newsletter! ***

NEW IN THE KMC LIBRARY:

(located chez Ports, in Castlegar, 365-6056)

Meldeana Trail A-1

Bonnington, Chris. Mountaineer; thirty years of climbing on the world's great peaks. Sierra Club, 1990. Large format, superb photos.

Curran, Jim. K2, triumph and tragedy. Seattle Mountaineers, 1987. An account of the summer of 1986: 27 climbers reached the summit, but 7 of those plus 6 others died on the mountain.

Videocassettes:

Nov 15

Basic rockelimbing, and The art of leading. Both with John Long.



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

KMC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BANQUET
Friday November 13th
6:30pm - cocktails; 7:00pm - Chinese Dinner
(by former owners of Double Happiness ... Yummy!)
Hi-Arrow Restaurant (NEW and IMPROVED, honest!)
\$14 includes tax and tip

Please R.S.V.P. by **November 6** to: Janice Isaac in Nelson - 352-3895 George Apel in Castlegar - 365-7653 Janet Cameron in Trail - 364-1487

Come out for this important business and social event. And don't look so worried; although various executive positions are up for relection, our one-woman-nominating-committee-and-arm-twister extraordinaire, Janet Cameron, has already lined up volunteers to fill the vacancies. However additional nominations will be welcomed from the floor.

Positions to be filled at the AGM:

Secretary Karabiner Editor
Treasurer Social Co-ordinator
Trips (Summer and Winter) Conservation

AND MORE! This year we have a **new constitution** (enclosed with this issue) to discuss and vote on. Maybe it will be non-controversial, or maybe, as George Apel says, "It's been a long time since we had a really good AGM..." Please read it and be prepared to bring forth any concerns you may have. Thanks to Laurie Charleton for his considerable work in drafting the new version, in conjunction with the Executive.

SEE YOU THERE!

Do you have any old tents or packs?

The KMC has received a letter from "Friends of the Wilderness" in Bacolod City, Philippines, asking for donations of old tents or knapsacks. The organization works to promote tropical rainforest conservation, protection and reforestation, and one of its activities involves taking young people on weekend environmental camps at the Mt. Mandalagan Mountain Ranges in Negros Occidental. About 50 youths per weekend undergo training in environmental education, trekking, tree planting and other ecological related activities that they can replicate in their schools and neighbourhoods.

"This activity hopes to educate thousands of our people of the need to conserve and protect our fragile natural resources. These young people are our future leaders towards making a new direction in the conservation and protection of our rainforests," says the letter.

If you wish to make a donation, bring it to the AGM, and we'll send all that we receive to the Philippines.

TRIP REPORTS

August 18-21, 1992 Mt. Iconoclast, 10 630' & Mt. Nordio, 9 850'

Postponed from the August 15/16 weekend, the trip went mid-week from August 18-21. We arrived at Ventego Lake on the afternoon of the 18th and set up camp in ok weather. The following morning the clouds were down to 10 000', but the weather looked ok so we set off. Our route took us up the north ridge which was loose and shaley with bands of quartzite. We enjoyed the summit as well as the descent in snowstorm/whiteout conditions. Overnight it cleared so we set off to Nordic Mt. Nordic was a long, enjoyable climb through glacial streams, over crevassed glaciers and rocky ridges to the summit which we reached at 1600 hrs. With the help of some chocolate brownies from the folks at Sorcerer Lodge, we reached our camp at dusk. Another storm overnight deposited enough snow to dampen our enthusiasm for any additional climbing on the 21st. Fortunately the weather was good in the afternoon for our departure. More details in the Karabiner.

We were: Hamish Mutch, Larry Smith and Fred Thiessen

The Mt. Tsar trip (scheduled for Sept 6-7) didn't go due to bad weather on the Labour Day Weekend. It will be rescheduled for next year. We have found out that the roads go to 6000', 3 km east of the peak. These roads end 183 km north of Donald, making it a long drive.

August 23/92

Grey's Peak

On this exceptional summer day, an enthusiastic party of nine left the snow-covered Gibson Lake parking lot at 9 am. We anticipated the white groundcover would soon disappear with the warmth of the day. Two of the brighter members of the group figured that would not happen so carried on to the Slocan Chief cabin. The rest left the trail and headed for the old mine site. Hiking the wet meadows and scrambling over the snow-covered rockfields added interest and challenge to the trip.

The sun shone for a few minutes while we lunched on the glacier at 1:00. This permitted us to get our bearings and ascend the correct peak. The large crevasses in the glacier were spectacular. Ropes and crampons were used to ascend the glacier. The three without crampons managed to boulder scramble and cross the glacier to reach the tongue of the peak. At 3:30 the summit was reached. Due to the low cloud, views of Nelson and the surrounding area were put on hold until the next expedition. The trip took a total of 11 hours and was unanimously reclassified C3.

C. Potasnyk

Grey's Peak baggers were Carol Potasnyk, Mary Woodward, Dave Adams, Peter Jordan, Bob Hellman, Ray Sumi, Glen Cameron. Slocan Chief hikers: Bob Dean, Elaine Martin.

Trip Reports, cont.

September 27, 1992 Woodbury Hut

Both club trips were cancelled this weekend so a group of us who had not made it on Wendy Hurst's trip to Woodbury Hut earlier in the summer, decided to go up today. There were 6 of us who met at Willow Point at 7:30 a.m. We left the Woodbury parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and started out as a fairly quiet group and were at times distanced apart along the trail ... until ... Kevin Forsyth (at the front of the group) turned around to Dave Cunningham and myself (Kathy Hendren) and said "Back, back - there are 2 grizzly cubs and a mama ahead." We began to move back down the trail to join the rest of our group. At one point I turned around just in time to see the mother charging down the trail. She made an abrupt stop at a corner about 70 feet from us and turned around and went back to her cubs. Needless to say we soon became a "close knit" group and bellowed out our "Yay ho's" from that point on! It has certainly left a vivid memory in my mind, and has reinforced my respect for the hills and the bears who roam amongst them.

We lunched at the cabin at about 12:30. It was a beautiful, fresh, clear day and there was about 4 inches of snow at the cabin. The view of the glacier was breathtaking. Three people walked up to the ridge behind the cabin while the rest of us sunned on the helicopter landing. A great day!

We were: Mary Woodward, Ray Neumar, Kevin Forsyth, Dave Cunningham, Steve Brewster and Kathy Hendren.

October 4, 1992 Evening Star (up Silver Spray way)

By heading up to Silver Spray a week later we missed the larch colours, since the trees had already dropped their needles, but also gave the snow a chance to melt. The hike up to the cabin took less than three hours, including the time spent by Bert Port to count the 300 tightly spaced rings on an alpine tree trunk. The grizzlies stayed over by the Woodbury trail, leaving us in peace. It was gloriously sunny, with no snow, but a cold breeze. After lunch, some scrambled up the additional 500 or so feet of elevation to the summit of Evening Star. Others checked out the old mine above the cabin. We headed down just before three, and were back at the cars in two hours. My but that trail is steep! Anna Thyer continued her tradition of offering around cake at the parking lot—a fine tradition she should never abandon.

We were: Bert and Sue Port, Kathy Hendren, P'nina Shames, Mary Woodward, Laurie Charleton, Trish Harrison, Roger Legge, Bob Dean, Norm and Anna Thyer, Simon Coates, Vivien Bowers.

ODDS AND SODS

Wanted: Home For Hiking Camp Gear: The KMC needs someone with some extra space in their basement or garage to store the Hiking Camp gear. Preferably, the individual will be in the Nelson area. The gear is in two wooden boxes approximately 2'x2'x4' and includes a bundle of tent poles, some coolers and propane tanks. It is expected that a check of the equipment would be done in the spring and an inventory maintained. Any minor repairs or sewing would be done with help from others. If you are willing to house the gear, or help with its maintenance, please call Laurie Charleton at 362-9461.

Lost Sheep Dept.: Garth reports that mail has been returned labelled "Moved - address unknown" from the following:

Ron Stockerl

Mrs. Dunlop all last heard from in Castlegar

Cindy and Ken Talarico

If anyone knows what has happened to them, please help us update the mailing list. Call Garth at 362-7649.

Found: Kevin Forsyth found a pair of cotton pants with items in the pockets in his truck after the August 5th hike to Mt. Crawford. If you own them, call him at 354-1516.

KMC T-shirts - some medium and large T-shirts still available. Check them out at the Banquet, or call Carol at 354-4437.

For Sale: Thommen TX-22 pocket altimeter. 19 jewels. O - 6000m range. As New. \$150.00 Call Tom at 362-5195.

Christmas shopping? The cover shot on the 1993 West Kootenay Calendar is KMC member Larry Doell's photo of the 1991 hiking camp at International Basin. The calendar contains a couple of other photos by Larry, as well as shots by other Kootenay photographers. Might make a good present for KMCers here and elsewhere... even Great Aunt Martha would love it.

Letter from Brian in Turkey: Coincidentally, Brian Port is also in Turkey for a year. However the KMC has received a note from Brian Barrett c/o Cayeli Bakir Isletmeleri AS, PK 102 Cayeli Rize, Turkey. Phone: 0561 6184 (Res), 0561 3353 (Bus). He is helping build a mine in the far NE corner of Turkey ("in the small town of Cayeli that has a pop. of 15,001, some 100km east of Trabzon on the Black Sea coast, if you care to look in your atlas." Life sounds interesting, climate sounds wonderful, and when he goes running "most people here look at me as if I have a screw missing—sounds like Calgary 15 years ago!" If anyone would like to see the complete letter, give Vivien a call (825-4392) and I'll pass it along.

Mountaineering, Expedition Books - New, Used, Rare. Send for free catalogue: JP Books, Box 10884, Portland, OR 97210, USA. Tel: (503) 227-3308.

Wanted: Ski mountaineering boots (Men's siz 10) and bindings. Call Don Kelly, 825-4648.

Trail and Cabin Update - This past summer say a lot of trail work in the local area. In addition to the work Parks is continually doing in the Valhalla and Kokanee Glacier parks, the Arrow Forest District had work done on:

K&S railway trail Shannon Creek trail

Wensley Creek X-Country Ski trail Silver Cup trail

Silver Cup trail
In addition to basic maintenance on its other trails, the Kootenay Lake
District has particularly worked on:

Sproule Creek trail

Ross Lake trail

Wilson Creek Falls trail

Kuskanas Creek trail

Saddle Mountain Lookout trail

Old Growth trail (it's still not completed)

These trails, along with additional information, can be found on the Arrow and Kootenay Lake District's Recreation Map.

In addition, Huckleberry, Copper Mountain and Grassy Mountain huts are reported to be well stocked with firewood for the winter. Huckleberry Hut also has a new outhouse.

Anyone interested in putting together or assisting in putting together a pamphlet on the location of these huts should contact me at 365-7653.

George Apel

Protected Areas Strategy:

The provincial government is presently trying to establish a provincial strategy for land use and related resource and environmental management. They are doing this through the Commission on Resources and Environment (CORE). The strategy will include the development, implementation and monitoring of a regional planning process, community-based participatory processes, and a dispute resolution mechanism. Three regions of the province are being targeted for initial work: Vancouver Island, Chilcotin and the Kootenays. The exact procedure for the development of this process is still unknown, but we do know that the Commission will make recommendations on parks and wilderness designations.

There are several study areas in the Kootenays which will have their designation decided on by the year 2000. These are: Purcell East, Greenbush Lake, Monashee Additions, Goat Range, Bugaboo Review, Lake of the Hanging Glacier, Galloping Hills/Granby, Gladstone, Hutchison Creek, Midge, Lockhart/Kianuko, Wigwam, Upper Dunbar Creek and Carney Creek.

What the KMC needs is a member or groups of members for each study area of interest, to obtain and provide information to the club and the Federation of Mountain Clubs so that appropriate participation can be made in the process. Land use decisions made as part of the CORE and Protected Areas Strategy will be for the long term, so we must participate now.

Anyone who is interested in more information or in helping out, or who knows someone who might help, please contact Kim Kratky, John Walton, Mike Brewster, Susan Knoerr or Peter McIver (KMC Conservation Committee members).

Summer camps have become a major activity of the KMC. Twenty years ago, there was a single one-week camp every year. Now we have separate camps catering to "hikers" and "climbers", and even with three distinct hiking camps, there are always more applicants than vacancies.

With two distinct categories of camp, there is a risk of the club becoming polarized into two separate groups, climbers and hikers. I have even heard suggestions that all technical climbing gear should be banned from hiking camps. In my opinion, this would only aggravate the polarization, and exclude the needs of people whose interests lie between, or overlap, the two extremes of easy hiking and highly technical climbing.

One rationale for banning technical gear from hiking camp is that its presence would tempt people to attempt exploits beyond their ability. My response is that people are just as liable to do that when they don't have the appropriate equipment, and, indeed, could get themselves into more trouble through not having it. I personally feel safer doing a technical climb on solid rock than hiking on loose rock. If I had to cross sloping hard snow or ice, I would rather do so with crampons than trust to Vibram on millimetre-deep footholds or resort to crawling on hands and knees.

Accidents rarely occur because one is too well equipped. Mostly they are the results of inadequate equipment or training, "acts of God", or, especially, bad judgement.

Sometimes it's amazing what one can get away with. I heard that a teenaged girl climbed Mt. Rainier wearing tennis shoes. One summer, a party of geologists was camped on the summit of that same mountain, and one morning a man wandered into their camp wearing a greatcoat and galoshes and carrying a crowbar. He was exhausted, and probably would not have survived if the camp had not been there. If he had died, would he have been considered a hero or a fool? Sometimes the distinction is not very clear.

The sort of things one does at a camp are not governed solely by the equipment one has. Instead, the equipment one brings should be governed by the nature of the terrain. If there's a glacier within walking distance of camp, someone is sure to say "That glacier's safe. There aren't any crevasses." or "You can see all the crevasses.", and take a trip across it as if going for a walk in a city park. However, if I was called upon to go and rescue him/her, I'd want to be properly equipped. If camp participants are expected to do nothing more challenging than hike on trails or in meadows, the location should be chosen accordingly.

Hiking camp participants are told to bring ice-axes. At the 1991 Hiking Camp, there was at least moderately steep snow on most hiking routes. I wonder how many of the people who bring ice-axes to Hiking Camp are proficient at self-arresting on steep snow. It's too late to learn when you're hurtling down a slope towards rocks or a guily that leads over a cliff. How many could belay a companion across an exposed snow slope? How many could rappel down if they found themselves at the top of smooth slabs when taking a "short cut" down the mountain? I think it is better to be prepared for such situations than to hope that they won't occur.

Rather than restrict our activities, shouldn't we try to expand them, to improve our skills of travelling in the mountains? Our club offers a Climbing School every year, where these skills can be learned. But how many people are discouraged from attending for reasons which are completely unjustified, such as stories in the "Karabiner" of hair-raising exploits on Class 5.14 cliffs, or the fear of hanging on a rope above a 1000-metre drop, or by the prospect of having to buy and carry a huge rack of climbing hardware that, in reality, only a rock specialist would use?

Our club is a Mountaineering Club, but the tastes and abilities of its members vary widely. Some members are not satisfied with anything less than strenuous, highly-technical climbs. Others are quite content to hike on trails and in meadows, and still others seek something in between; while not aspiring to 14-hour marathons on Class 5.10 rock, some Class 4 climbing with a bit of glacier travel would suit them fine. Can our camps accommodate them all without being polarized into the two extremes of a strictly-hiking camp and an ambitious-climbing camp? Could we have a General Mountaineering Camp? A third type of camp in a third location would, of course, involve more equipment and organization. Perhaps a compromise would be to designate the first week of Hiking Camp for general mountaineering, and later weeks for hiking only.

Let's have some discussion on this matter. Meanwhile, I suggest: Don't deliberately restrict your activity by leaving your equipment at home; bring it with you (within reason - remember the weight) and learn how to use it properly in improving your mountain-travel skills, your judgement and your safety.

Abominably Yours,

ccasionally, existential questions crop up In my mind as I ruminate through the winter months here in my Upper Barun hideout. Lately, these existential questions have tended to be geological in nature. Such as: how come my cave is so high up, at 23,386 feet above mean sea level?

I have read books on the subject of Himalayan uplift, and can converse intelligently at cocktail parties about subduction zones. overthrust nappes, continental plates and rock strata. But never have I read geology made as simple as it was in the 9 October 1990 issue of The New York Times, which I just received. (Will have to check with my Maha-Langur Courier Service about this glacial delivery.)

Anyway, for the best quotes on a subject as dense as mountain tectonics by as humourless a crew as geologists, I commend you to reporter Natalie Angier's piece in the newspaper, entitled "Himalayas' Rise Overturns Ideas About Peak-Building.'

Evidently, American earth-scientists have just discovered that the Himalaya is the fastestgrowing mountain chain on Earth, and their enthusiasm knows no bounds.

Exults Dr. John F. Shroder, geology professor from the University of Nebraska: "In the Himalaya, everything is going on faster and on a larger scale than at most other places. Uplift is faster, downcutting is faster, the rivers carry more sediment. If I'm studying landslides, I might have to wait in the U.S. for years to see one. But over there, I'll get a good one a

couple of times every summer. It may be hazardous to life and limb, but at least you'll get what you're looking for." Go tell that to the vil-

Another rock-man, Dr. Robert Y. Yeats (Oregon State University), rhapsodises: "We have here a profound cross-section of the earth's crust laid out before us, with very little vegetation and almost 100 percent rock exposure. It's nice when you don't have to contend with trees or grass." Go tell that to the

According to the report, the tussle in the Himalaya is really between rocks that want to reach higher, and gravity, which will have none of it. "It seems that you can only build a mountain so high," says Dr. Clark Burchfiel, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "This has been a surprise to us. There had been speculation that there must be a balance between upward forces and gravity, but this is the first case where we can actually prove it."

The earth doesn't like to have its mountains too high. Ultimately, gravity must win." says Dr. Kip Hodges, another M.I.T. rocker. Danged gravity, always having it in for mountains.

Neither is Ms. Angier herself any slouch with vivid imagery when the subject is Himalayan uplift: "About 45 million years ago, the continental plate bearing the Indian peninsula, gliding to the northeast, slammed into the plate topped by Eurasia. The Indian plate attempted to keep moving by dipping

beneath the slightly larger Eurasian mass, but...the dive proved too difficult to manage. Because the subduction could not be accomplished, the two colliding edges folded up like origami to form the Himalayas." Ahh, hand me that Japan Airlines brochure.

Dr. Hodges of M.I.T. prefers something more graphic than origami: "We used to think that it was like what you'd get in a head-on collision between two cars, with each fender > folding like an accordion. But now we know that it's not so simple. It is more like what you'd have if you ran your car into a brick wall, it hit its left fender, rotated, gathered up & few pedestrians, and then hit the wall with its? right fender. You'd end up with a horrible mess and bits of people between the car and the wall."

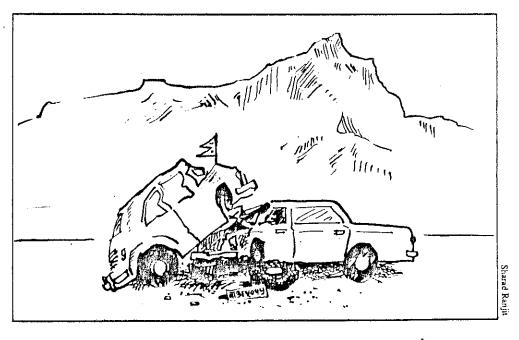
For the most gruesome depiction of the Himalayan uplift, that passage takes the tsampa. Carried away by the horror of it all, Ms. :: Angier ends her piece by calling my Himalaya "that horrible mess of a mosaic of rocks forced

At about that time I let out the wail that Sherpas tell foreigners about, the kind that eeri ly echoes off the high valleys of the Hongu Basin, indicating an abominable person in severe stress. You can understand the state I was in: so many geologists, and all of them PhDs, putting the fear of rocks in a poor Himalayite. Everytime I look at Makalu across the valley now, it looks like a warped fender. I do not go out for fear of deadly earthquakes, lacerated massifs and mutilated ridgelines.

That night, with the jet-stream howling out side my cave entrance, I had a dream. I was in, a Volkswagen Beetle making quick geological time on an American super-highway, headed for Princeton University, New Jersey, to give & lecture on how to hold your breath longest. Suddenly, heading straight down the tumpike, on the wrong lane, was a Volvo luxury sedan, full of mad geologists and driven by a reporter with dark strata under her eyes.

Crash! Mangled geologists, crushed fenders, the Volvo going into subduction under the tarmac magma, the Beetle rising above it all in slowmotion, a triumphant upthrust nappe in magnificient destruction.

I never knew Himalayan geology could be so scary.



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

KOO ENAY MOUN AINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

DECEMBER 1992 Next deadline: Dec.20/92

MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW DUE FOR RENEWAL! 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:93 or greater, your membership has expired.

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

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

CHRISTMAS PARTY!!

Sunday, December 13th 4:30 onward Susan Knoerr and Lee Schaeffer's house, 2412 12th Street, Castlegar

(Directions: Take highway from Castlegar towards Grand Forks, turn left at the highways maintenance yard (it is on the right of the highway), take first left onto Park Lane, then take first right onto 12th. Phone 365-7779 if you are lost.)

This party is an open potluck, so bring an edible contribution plus a plate and cutlery. Also, bring a "special treasure" (i.e., something silly) from home for the gift exchange.

Note: Garth Thomson is leading a cross-country ski trip to Nancy Green Trails prior to the party. See the Winter Trip Schedule.

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: Tuesday January 19th, 7:30 pm at George Apel's in Castlegar.

[Thanks to Matt Lamb-Yorski for applying his computer wizardry to production of this new newsletter title page.]



TRIP REPORTS

July 5, 1992

Mount Jardine

The Ten Mile Creek forestry road gives good alpine access to the Blue Ridge from the Kaslo-New Denver Highway 8 miles west of Kaslo.

a) 1.5 mile trail to Jardine Cabin and basin on headwaters of Emerald Creek (A-1) (unmarked trailhead at 6000 ft switchback) + 2 mile ridge walk and old mining trail to Mount Jardine, 8000 ft (B-2) (another 1.5 miles to Mt. Schroeder)

b) past Empire Cabin by road to top of Blue Ridge to some good A-1 ridge walking.

20 hikers: 7 to Mt. Jardine: 13 for the two A-1 walks.

John Stewart

August 16

Porcupine Pass (East of Ymir)

Because the route from the top of the Pass to the peak via the two lakes is becoming heavier bushwhacking, suggest next trip here should go up 4WD road to top of Porcupine Creek, then climb both Porcupine Peaks, East and West. Eight hikers.

November 8, 1992 Copper Mountain

We didn't expect to have to park 4-5 miles before the usual parking spot on Fortynine Creek road - because of snow. At least it was a nicer day - high clouds and the hint of sun. Ten of us set out thinking of the cabin and a hot drink after reaching the summit. However, as the snow got deeper, resolve weakened. Four turned back after 4 miles and the rest went on until snow was knee high. Lunch was on the trail--no hot drink, no summit. Still, an enjoyable outing. On the hike were Jim Mattice, Mary Woodward, Bob Dean, Stephany Dean, Robin Lidstone, Margueritte Beauchamp, Sylvie, the honeymoon couple from New Brunswick, and Ray Neumar. Ray Neumar

"No, I think the east ridge is better as far as the shoulder, then up the south face taking the nose direct, and over the brow."

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

After spirited procedural debate (too much MSG does that to you), the proposed draft of the new KMC constitution was referred back to the executive committee to review further and to solicit further input from the membership. This will happen through the newsletter.

The following executive positions were filled:

Conservation: John Walton

Karabiner Editor: Larry Doell Social Director: Elaine Martin

Treasurer: Garth Thomson Summer Trips: Bob Dean

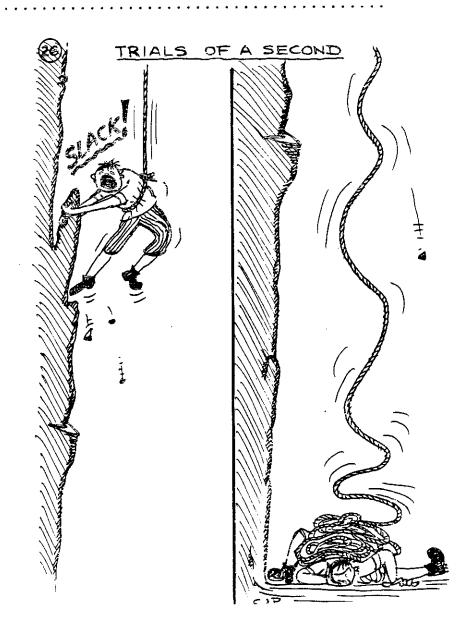
Winter Trips: David Mitchell

In addition, Janet Cameron has resigned as secretary, and Sue Port has agreed to take over her position.

I have been browsing through some of the first issues of the Kootenay Karabiner (starting June 1964). I figured that some of the jokes and cartoons (the latter created by Chris Penn) were worth repeating, so I've used a few in this issue. My apologies to founding members such as Kim Deane who heard them the first time round!

"Skis - A form of splints carried on the feet until required."
(Sir Norman Watson in Round Mystery Mountain)

"On the mountain climb the guide told me it was so easy his grandmother could do it. I grew to despise his grandmother before we reached the top." Pierre Trudeau



ODDS AND SODS

Logging Roads Open this Winter: Logging companies have been contacted with respect to what roads will be ploughed this winter. As always, the lumber market, snow depth, break-up, etc. will determine if the roads will be open for the times given. If you are planning on using these roads, remember that logging trucks can be encountered on weekdays as well as weekends. As of November 15, here are the roads. More details in the next newsletter.

Near Nelson:

Clearwater Creek, open until December 15 to Huckleberry Pass (1600m)

Snowwater Creek, until about December 15, to the snowmobile cabin below Mt. Siwash. After December 15, to the junction of Snowwater and Rover Creek. This promises to be good touring to about the end of December, and the Copper Mt. hut should be easy to get to.

Slocan Valley:

Airy-Tindale Cree, until the end of December. Couldn't find out the details of which elevation, but it's apparently high Fred Thiessen elevation.

Another Missing Person! Mail has been returned "Address Unknown" for Maureen Roberts, last heard from in Vancouver. This is in addition to Ron Stockerl and Mrs. H.P. Dunlop, who were reported last month. We still haven't heard about them. If anyone knows a new address for any of these members, please let Garth know at 362-7649.

Best of the Banff Festival of Mountain Films comes to Nelson on December 10th at 7 pm at the Civic Theatre. Tickets at Snowpack in Nelson (352-6411) or PowderHound in Rossland (362-5311). Draw prizes include outdoor gear and an Avalanche safety course. This annual event is usually sold out, so get your tickets early.

McKean Lakes Lodge Ski Trip: March 16-20, 1993. Five days of cross country/backcountry skiing, including catered meals, sauna, cozy lodge, helicopter in and out. Two spaces available. Cost \$450. Phone Mary Baker. 368-5530.

(P.S. We did not get a week at Slocan Chief cabin this winter.)

For Sale: Avalanche transceivers. Selkirk Wilderness Skiing in Meadow Creek has about 25 used, one-year-old Ortovox dual-frequency avalanche transceivers for sale - \$170 each. They are switching to transceivers using the new European frequency. Call Allan or Brenda Drury, 366-4424.

Whither KMC Hiking Camp '93? Hiking camp coordinator Laurie Charleton will soon by choosing the location for next year's hiking camp. If you have any suggestions, please call him at 362-9461.

V.O.C. Reunion: Plans are afoot for a big get-together of former University of B.C. Varsity Outdoor Club members. (There are a number of us rotting away blissfully in the Kootenays.) The occasion is the 75th Anniversary of the VOC, and the reunion is planned for July 2-4th next year in Vancouver. Organizer Bob Brusse asks that you spread the word. To gauge whether there is sufficient interest, he would like to hear from at least 300 former VOCers who can send \$10 each (to help offset some of the initial organizational costs) by March 27th. Send your name, address, postal code, telephone and/or fax, the approximate epoch when you were in the club, and a cheque for \$10 payable to "VOC REUNION 93", to: VOC Reunion 93, C/O Bob Brusse, 2040 West 12th Ave., Vancouver BC, V6J 2G2, Tel: 732-7730 (24-hr answering machine). Fax: 737-0405.

New Accommodation at Lake Louise: The "Canadian Alpine Centre" opened a year ago in Lake Louise. It has a very attractive lounge and library, good cafeteria, and a fully equipped kitchen for doing your own cooking.

Alpine Club or Y.H. members pay \$15 in a 4-bed room, \$17.50 in a 2-bed room. Non-members \$5 extra. Ages 6-12 half these rates. (All rates per person.) Phone 1-403-522-2200. Credit cards. Probably full July, August, and weekends (Fri, Sat) Christmas to Easter. Blankets, pillows, pillow cases supplied. Bring your own sheets or sleeping bag and soap. "Semi-private" toilet and basin for each 4 people; individual shower "roomettes" close by.

Location: Enter Lake Louise at main cloverleaf from Trans Canada. Take first right. On your left just past entrance to Post Hotel and Lake Louise Inn. John Stewart, 352-3273

Living in the Avalanche Zone: There are numerous avalanche courses being offered this winter by different outfits in the area. These two sent their information to me to include in the newsletter.

Cirrus Mountaineering (Rob Whelan) offers a two-day avalanche awareness course December 12-13 and December 19-20. One-day "avalanche refresher" courses for those who have previously taken an avalanche course run December 6 and 17. Rob also offers a one day or overnight "What If?" course that deals with emergency situations that might arise in the mountains in winter. Fort info, call 354-3820.

Kootenay Centre for Experiential Education offers a variety of mountain skills courses including "Introduction to Avalanche Hazard Evaluation" (Jan 9-10). For information on this and other winter courses, call 825-0088.