

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

January 2001

ISSUE 1

next deadline: Jan 25

UPCOMING WINTER TRIPS...

Jan.	13 s	Siwash mtn. - Midas Basin C3
	14	TBA (C3 probably)
-	14	Bonanza Creek (Paulson area) B-C2
	21	Goat Creek (Retallack area) B-C3
-	24 w	Paulson-Nancy Greene area B1-2
	28	Kutel Basin D4
-	28	6-Mile - Lemon Creek C2
Feb.	4	Clearwater Creek to Ymir traverse C2
-	7 w	Paulson-Nancy Greene area B1-2
-	10 s	Michener Creek (Paulson area) B2
	11	TBA (C3 probably)
	18	Plewman Basin B-C3
-	18	Mosquito-Red Dog Cabins (Nancy Greene area) B2

March 7 Rossland

Trip classification: Trips are classified according to strenuousness (A-E) and level of difficulty (1-5), as for summer trips. This classification is very approximate, as the difficulty of a trip will vary greatly depending on snow conditions.

A - easy (a short day, little elevation gain) B - fairly easy (a longer day or moderate elevation gain) C - average
(a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D - strenuous (a long day, lots of elevation gain) E - very strenuous (bust a gut).

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

N.B. Trip coordinators should note that they can download copies of the Trip Waiver form from the website

SOCIAL...

Set aside Feb 24th for an "apres ski", finger food potluck in Paulson country.
Details in the next issue.

WANTED...

Graphic design for new KMC T-shirts. Members with artistic skills are invited to submit designs for Club T-shirts to Jan Micklithwaite at: jan@netidea.com

Please use jpeg format for digital submissions or send hard copy to Jan at: Box 652, Rossland, V0G 1Y0.

Understudy. Laurie Charlton has indicated that this will be his last year as Hiking Camps Chairman. Over the last ten years, he has collected and documented a lot of useful information to help his successor, but having an "understudy" on board this year to see how things really work would make for a smooth transition to a new Chairperson next year. If you have any interest in taking over this important "portfolio", please contact Laurie at 362 9461.

352-6760 Bobbie Mary
J Steed
YT
M. Gribble

A replacement will also be needed next year for Winter Trips Chairperson, as Peter Jordan will be giving up this position after a four year stint.

MEMBERS WRITE...

GPS UNITS

Why buy the e-trex summit (app\$350) rather than the plain e-trex (app. \$190)?

The Garmin website says that the GPS capabilities are identical for the two of them and the significant difference is that the summit version has an electronic compass and a very accurate barometric altimeter.

Ted Ibrahim

I have used both the "e-trex" and "e-trex summit" and find that the compass function with the "summit" makes a huge difference for simplifying navigation. The problem with the "e-trex" is that if you want to GOTO a particular target you have to actually walk forward to initiate the proper direction finding capabilities of the GPS. With the summit this is not required - it is instantaneous from whatever stationary point you are at - even if you are spinning around in a circle. This is due to the onboard compass function, which is fantastic. Also what is good is the onboard altimeter - to keep track of things like current elevation and change in elevation as you hike up or down.

If I am caught in a whiteout while backcountry skiing I don't want the hassle of having to walk or ski several paces to initiate finding my way back to a specified point. I want to tell the GPS where I want to go and have it display that information immediately from wherever I am standing. Really it depends on what you want to use it for - if my life is depending on accurate and simple navigation - I'll choose the summit - it is worth it

However do your own research and make your own conclusions - there is tons of information on the web.

Donna Delparte

KARABINER...

SUBMISSIONS TO THE KARABINER.

To those who have already contributed materials for the next Karabiner, a warm thank-you from your editor. To others who are thinking about doing so, please have your submissions to me by February 28th, 2001 at the latest. I would prefer to receive submissions in electronic format as e-mail attachments. Because I am limited by my computer software and a decision to use PageMaker as our desktop publishing software, please note the preferred formats below.

Preferred text formats include Word 97 or lower (.doc) files, rich text format (.rtf), or text files (.txt). Preferred graphics/photo formats include jpg, gif, or tif.

If you need help sending attachments or saving your document or photo in these formats, please call me at (250) 354-4148

and I'll do what I can to help. If you are a computer user but not on-line, consider mailing an electronic disk. For everyone else, I will receive hard copy writing (preferably typed) and photos by mail. Send them to:

Holly Ridenour
RR#2 S14 C9
Nelson, BC V1L 5P5

It is important that you include your name, phone number and e-mail address (if you have one) with your submission. This will allow me to contact you should I have questions during the edit and publishing process. Also important is that you provide some explanation to go with your photos, e.g., location, when it was taken, who took it, and the special significance or story that goes with it.

I look forward to hearing from many of you. I would encourage you to write a few words to add to our Kootenay memories. This might be a poem or a true story that happened in the mountains. It might also be your thoughts about what hiking with the KMC means to you. These are the stories of our lives and leave a lasting impression for our families, friends and the community. Please contribute.

Holly Ridenour

HIKING TRIPS SCHEDULE...

After many years of great service, Bob Dean has relinquished the job of preparing the summer schedule and I have been recruited to replace him. This message is a request for KMC members to step forward and volunteer to coordinate hikes for the season. Please advise me of the dates and locations for the hikes that you would like to coordinate. A calendar of possible dates is attached on the back page of this issue. You are requested to consider taking on a minimum of two hikes.

Please respond by January 21, 2001.
e-mail: dharasym@netidea.com,
fax: 352-6267 telephone: 354-4578.

- ♦ The e-mail list is also being updated, so if you would like to continue to receive occasional e-mail updates on the hikes, please advise me or Bob Dean (bdean@look.ca) by e-mail.
- ♦ You should also let us know if you no longer wish to receive updates.

Thanks for your willingness to volunteer.

Don Harasym

CLIMBING TRIPS SCHEDULE...

Ross Breakwell is putting together a schedule of climbing trips for weekends in July, August and September. The focus will be on mountaineering trips which include some technical

climbing. If you have any interest in coordinating a trip, let

Ross know your preferred date and destination.

Phone: 362 5169

EXECUTIVE MEETING REPORTS

DEC 5th ...

Conservation. Kim reported that open houses to publicize the management plans for new provincial parks are being held around the province. The two new parks in our area are the Goat Range Park, north of Retallack and the West Arm Park on the south shore of the west arm of Kootenay Lake. In both cases specific interest groups have expressed concerns that the parks do not exclude specific uses. For example, some of the areas now included in the West Arm Park have traditionally been used for climbing, back country skiing and mountain biking.

Cabins and trails. Mark noted that he had received three phone calls from members wanting to join him in skiing into the Grassy Hut to participate in erecting the Hamish Hamilton Memorial Plaque. The M.O.F. is supplying building material for renovating the Grassy Hut and also enough shales for re-roofing two of the Bonnington huts. Mark is looking forward to hearing from lots of volunteers when he sets up a hut renovation work party in the spring.

Vote of thanks....

On the occasion of his retirement as Chairman of Summer Hiking Trips, the executive extends a sincere appreciation to Bob Dean on behalf of the Club. For eight years Bob has put together schedules with a wide range of destinations and encouraged members to coordinate trips. A full schedule of interesting trips has been key in maintaining member participation and also instrumental in attracting new members. On behalf of all who have enjoyed the trips, many thanks Bob, and good luck to new Chairman, Don Harasym.

JAN 2nd ...

Conservation. Because of the current provincial policy of "grandfathering" historic uses when setting up new parks, the Goat Range Management Plan includes ongoing use of the park by Canadian Mountain Holidays for Heli-Skiing and by trappers and hunters currently using the area. The plan does call for "low frequency air access" though "low" is not defined. Ground vehicle access to the park via the Poplar Creek drainage will be limited in future because of the deactivation of roads when the current phase of harvesting and silviculture is complete. In his written response to the Plan, Kim has asked that Parks gather and store CMH flight frequency data and also continue research on the impacts of heli-skiing. He also queries whether private individuals/groups will be allowed heli access.

Access Issues. The executive voted to join the Climbers Access Society as a corporate member. The intent is to share information on ways of ensuring access to quality climbing destinations and to add weight to lobbying efforts.

PUBLICATION EXCHANGE...

Members are reminded that copies of the newsletters of other outdoor groups with whom we have an "exchange" are available in the Club Library at the home of Sue Port.

CLUB BADGES...

There are a limited number of KMC cloth badges with the club name and logo available from Kim Kratky at:

44 Oak Street, Nelson, B.C. V1L 2V9

Phone: 352-3895 Email: kkratky@selkirk.bc.ca

The badges are \$3 each. As well as being a decorative addition to pack, they are accepted by some Mountaineering Clubs in other countries in negotiating a cheaper "club exchange" rate for use of their facilities.

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

KMC WEBSITE: www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

The KMC Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Wendy Hurst, RR2 S17, C15, Castlegar, V1N 3L4

E-mail: Wendy_Hurst@telus.net

SUBMISSIONS: I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the trip. Articles may be submitted on paper or by E-mail. When sending E-mail attachments, please "save as" MS Word if you are using other word processing software before sending.

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

MEMBERSHIP (including changes of address)

The annual KMC dues are:

Individual	\$20
Couple/Family	\$25
Junior	\$10

Send to: KMC Membership

c/o Joan Grodzki
RR#1, S-13, C-19
Nelson, BC V1L5P4

KMC HIKING TRIP SCHEDULE, 2001

If you have not received a copy of the schedule via E-mail,
please check the dates below and let Don Harasym know
when you can coordinate a trip

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

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

Date		Destination and Rating	Coordinator	Phone
Mar	11			
	18			
	25			
Apr	01			
	08			
	15			
	22			
	29			
May	05s			
	06			
	12s			
	13			
	19			
	20			
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June	02s			
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	27w			
	30s			
July	01			
	04w			
	07s			
	08			
	11w			
	14s			

Date	Destination and Rating	Coordinator	Phone
	15		
	18w		
	21s		
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	25w		
	28		
	29		
Aug	01w		
	04s		
	05		
	08w		
	11s		
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Sept	01s		
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Oct	03w		
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	07		
	10w		
	13s		
	14		
	21		
	28		
Nov	04		
	11		
	18		
	25		
Jan	01/02		

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2001

ISSUE 2

next deadline: Feb 25th

UPCOMING WINTER TRIPS...

Feb. 25	Ripple Ridge C3	Roland Perrin	352-5480
28 w	Paulson-Nancy Greene area B1-2	Janet Cameron	364-1487
Mar. 3 s	White Queen B3	Peter Jordan	352-5225
4	Huckleberry Hut (Barrett Creek) B-C2	David Cunningham	352-7434
11	Mt Gladstone D3	Mark Hamilton	352-5824
18	TBA (C-D3 probably)	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
25	Mt Brennan D4	Roland Perrin	352-5480

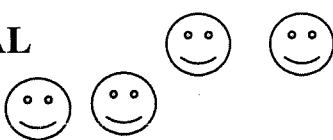
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N.B. Trip coordinators should note that they can download copies of the Trip Waiver form from the website

APRES SKI SOCIAL FEB. 24...



Meet Jan and Jill at the Nancy Greene junction warm-up hut (towards the lake from the parking lot on the highway) at 1300 for a leisurely ski across the lake and around some of the Paulson trails...or do your own backcountry tour in the area and meet us back at the warming hut for a potluck finger food après ski social starting around 1530. We were going to do this at the Viking Hut but the Nordic Club is hosting a loppet that day.

TRIP REPORTS

AIRY CREEK, DEC. 31st 2000

The dearth of snow made the original trip plan of Wolf Peak impractical. In fact I had envisaged canceling the trip as no one had expressed any interest by the Thursday prior. However, thanks to some excellent reconnaissance work by

Messrs. Theissen, Holmes (Andrew), and White a few days earlier, it was discovered that the road up Airy Creek in the Passmore area was open and furthermore offered some reasonably good "early season" skiing.

Seven of us headed back to the area on the 31st. We parked at the head of the plowed road (4500') at a junction on the Airy Creek FSR, about 5 or 6 km. from the turnoff from Little Slocan Lakes road. The first order of business was to "correct" the up track set by Andrew Holmes earlier in the week as it did not meet road building specs! Leaving the vehicles at 0830, we skied west up the road and then ascended through timber and open slopes to the ridge crest NE of Airy Mtn. (7300', UTM 889398). We reached the ridge below Airy at 1200. After a quick lunch in light snow with fair visibility, we made two runs on the SE aspect of our ridge. The snow was of good quality, but below 6500' the cover was sparse enough to make things interesting. We got back to the vehicles by 1530.

Trip members: Fred Theissen, Andrew Port, Kim Kratky, Eric White, Peter Jordan, and Peter Tchir.

Coordinator: David Horner

COPPER MOUNTAIN, JANUARY 7th

As everyone knows by now, there isn't much snow out there. As well, we've been hearing about the high hazard for avalanches, with "experts" like Justin Trudeau warning us of these hazards. Why would anyone want to go touring? Well, contrary to popular belief, it's not that hazardous with good route finding. The really prone stuff seems to have failed down to bare rock. It is an interesting snowpack. We had a good day of touring, without a lot of actual skiing.

The lack of snow has meant that the ploughed road up Rover Creek is open to about 14 km, about 4 km past the turn-off at the Snowwater Creek. A Kalesnikoff contractor is working on a couple of blocks near the alpine on the north-east ridge of Mount Connor. There were skin tracks through the clear-cut that we followed through the woods and up that ridge, then over the cirque below the north face. The snow there had already failed. (I found out later that the skin tracks were indeed put in on Saturday, as suspected, by Craig Bennet, the "Kootenay Coffee" guy).

From the ridge we skied north and into the headwaters of Erie Creek. We climbed through the trees to the east ridge of Copper Mountain. Since it was such a mild day with bluebird skies, we had our lunch on the south-facing flank of Copper Mountain. After lunch we skied to the Copper Hut, which is in great condition, and made the first entry for the year 2001. For those who are interested, the GPS UTM coordinates are 0472089 5470322. This is exactly where Mark Hamilton placed it on Robin Lidstone's map. (As if there was any reason to doubt Mark's dead reckoning!)

After 7 hours of touring, with a little skiing, we were back at the trucks. I promised that I wouldn't say anything about the bushwhack skiing that we all enjoyed so much for the last 45 minutes of the trip.

Trip members: Eric White, Fred Thiessen, Bert Port, Robin Lidstone, Peter Tchir

Coordinator: David Mitchell

PS: The following week I went in to the Huckleberry Hut. If anyone wants to do that, bring eye protection. The last bit of the road has lots of alder, and the ski out is quite the face slapper.

BLUE RIDGE, JAN 28th

For all you poor saps who decided to spend the day on the valley bottom in the fog, you missed a "triple A" day. Splendid powder on northerly facing slopes made for many, many, fantastic turns. After meeting in Kaslo at 7:00 am we made the trailhead and were on our skis at 8:00. The trail head is at 5200' elevation at the end of Blue Ridge FSR. Winter logging to the rescue again this year. We paid a visit to the folks at the Emerald Basin Cabin then skied several slopes in the upper Schroeder Creek valley accumulating 4500' of vertical. We knew so because Dave has a cumulative elevation gain measuring device. (I want to squash the nasty rumor that Dave tied the device to Willy's collar (Willy the

dog) and threw items down the slope for him to retrieve several times during the day). One of the highlights of the day was a mid gully collision. Eric and Fred collided like they were in the super bowl game. Both went down, neither was hurt and it was funny to observe.

The schedule had me as the trip coordinator, but try as I might I could not take the lead. Next time I am going to put a 20 kg weight in Rowland's pack to see if I can slow him down enough so I can lead.

Trip members: Fred Thiesson, Roland Perrin, Peter Tchir, Eric White, Craig K. (from Fruitvale), Dave Horner and Willy

Coordinator: Dwain Boyer

CLEARWATER CREEK TO YMIR TRAVERSE, FEB 4th

We left the Busk parking lot at about 0800 on Sunday morning Feb. 4. It had snowed about 4 inches overnight and it was still snowing although not very hard. The sky was overcast. The first 5 km were easy as we were on the groomed trails. After the groomed trails we started to break trail through about 8 inches of snow. Because of the need to break trail and because we were a chatty group, it took us 4 hours to make it to Huckleberry pass where we had lunch. The trip up to and through the pass was made a little worrisome by the settling of the snow as it went "whumph" many times. After lunch we skied through some clear-cut and avalanche paths and then found the old mining road at the bottom of the valley. The snow was a little crusty and the trip down the road was a little slow because we were breaking trail. We were back at the cars about 1545.

On our way through Ymir we stopped to see the snow sculpting which was part of the Ymir snow festival.

Trip members: William Miles, Bertrand Girard, Diane Sharp, Carol Potasnyk, Michael Gilfillan, Angelica Bower,

Coordinator: David Cunningham

MT. GOODWIN (8,077' 2462 M.)

Since low snow levels are confining many people to less ambitious winter trips, it seems like a good time to reminisce about last year's outings. Here is a brief account of a technically easy but moderately strenuous trip to the headwaters of Sanca Crk. that Hamish Mutch and I made on Sept. 28, 2000.

Our initial plan was to make an alpine traverse from the ridge southwest of Haystack Mtn. to Sherman Lake, but the distances were too far and the daylight hours too few to continue our journey beyond Mt. Goodwin.

Here are the simple directions. Follow Hwy. 3A for 43 km. south of the Kootenay Lake Ferry terminal and turn left onto Sanca Crk. FSR. Drive to the road's end and trailhead at km. 18 (new bridges; heavily water-barred beyond km. 14). Follow the Haystack Mtn. trail to the lake at Sanca Crk. headwaters, then strike out west overland to gain the ridge

system southwest of Haystack Mtn. We continued over two bumps (7550' and 7850') and descended 500' to a col studded with brilliantly-hued larches before gaining the summit of Goodwin at 12:20, 3 1/2 hours from the truck. After inspecting the cairn with summit record, we returned to the trail by a more direct cross-country route with some bush whacking and reached the truck in two hours from the top.

This is a recommended autumn outing providing good views of the peaks of Haystack, Akokli, Craig, and Jackson. I recall an overnight club trip was planned to this area last fall; for those who dislike longish days, there is good car camping at the trailhead, although you might want to bring your own water.

Map: 82F/7 BOSWELL.

Book reference: *Mountain Footsteps*, by Janice Strong.

Submitted by Kim Kratky

LOGGING ROADS...

KALESNIKOFF

- Up Snowwater Creek, then Rover Creek to the drainage that drains from Mt. Conner. In early Jan., the road was about 1.5 km north of Mt Connors at 1750 m. Kalesnikoff is now logging about 200 below this elevation. Provides access to Mt Conner and the Copper Hut. Can also be used to access Midas Creek which has pretty good skiing.

FROM SLOCAN FOREST PRODUCTS

In the TFL, from Ken Soukeroff:

- Up Airy Creek to around 6 km or so to about mid Feb. Good access to Airy Mt, both forks of Airy Creek and to Norns Creek. When taking the road, keep taking the right junction.

Outside the TFL on the Forest Licence from Simon Martin:

- Lemon Creek at 10 km. From Feb. to break-up. No good for ski touring, in the valley bottom.
- Springer Creek on the Ottawa Road at 12 km. This is on the south side of the drainage around Tobin (Brain?) Creek. Simon said it looked pretty boring for touring. Retallack Area.
- 12 Mile Creek at about 3 km or so from January to breakup. This one is in the Retallack area. Being at 3 km, it's at about 4000 ft. or so. You need to work at getting high. Provides access to Paddy Pk or Texas Pk. Maybe worth a try, but it's a long way to the alpine.
- Blue Ridge. SBFEP was logging up the Blue Ridge FSR north of the Buchanan L/O. From Kaslo, go west on Highway 31A for about 10 km, then access the Blue Ridge FSR and drive up 13 km to the end of the road, just below Blue Ridge. Some sledgers up here.

READERS WRITE...

PROS AND CONS OF GPS UNITS

Regarding the discussion on GPS receivers in the January newsletter, it is generally accepted that one should not depend

entirely on GPS for back-country navigation, but should still carry a magnetic compass.

A magnetic compass is not completely infallible; I have known one to change polarity, probably after exposure to a strong magnet, and local anomalies in the magnetic field can reduce its accuracy. However, high-tech devices are often more vulnerable than low-tech ones. The batteries on a GPS receiver could fail, the satellites could be damaged, or the US Navy could deactivate the system. I have found GPS accuracy to be significantly lower when part of the sky is obscured by topography or dense forest.

Which is more reliable? - a magnetic or electronic compass?

The advantage of an electronic compass seems to be mainly a matter of a slight increase in convenience. Whether one is prepared to pay \$150 for that increase is a matter of personal choice.

Norm Thyer

MAPS AND MAP READING

The following website has good information on maps and map reading:

http://maps.nrcan.gc.ca/main_e.html

It includes lots of good stuff on NAD 27 and 83 (yes there is good reason to have new maps)

For finding Canadian maps check out:

<http://maps.nrcan.gc.ca/search/ntsquery.html>

At this site, if you type in the name of the Nelson sheet (82F 6), you will see that it is brand new with 40 m contours and on the NAD 83 format.

Kootenay Experience has copies in stock.

Fred Thiessen

RED MOUNTAIN...

Red Mountain has revised its master plan. The revision scales back their expansion considerably, and now it basically is consistent with what KMC members and other critics asked for when it was submitted originally. That is, the Hanna Creek drainage including the Plewman Basin area, has been dropped from their expansion plans. However, the official application to BCAL requesting a Controlled Recreation Area, dated Jan. 12, 2001, still shows a good portion of the Hanna Creek drainage being included in the CRA. The KMC will seek clarification on this.

KMC MOUNTAINEERING COURSE 2001

This year we have made some changes to the format of the old KMC Rock School to include recent developments in mountaineering theory and practice.

The Club's goal is to provide a basic course that will allow club members to safely join in our mountaineering activities.

Due to a lack of volunteers and liability issues as well, we have elected to co-ordinate with and sponsor a professional guide and instructor to teach these courses.

We also have chosen to split the course into two sections, to allow participants to take the section of most interest to themselves and to keep the cost down.

Both sections will be instructed by Laura Adams, a certified ACMG Guide, local Nelson resident and Club member. Two certified guides will present for both courses.

ROCK SKILLS \$195.00

Essentials of rock climbing, with an emphasis on movement skills, belaying, rope management, anchor systems and safety, etc.

Limit 12 persons. May 18th (eve.) 19th and 20th (full days)

MOUNTAINEERING SKILLS \$299.00 (including hut fees)

Mountaineering on rock, snow, and glaciated terrain. Trip and route planning, map and compass navigation and mountain weather will all be covered. Kokanee Glacier will be used as the location to cover glacier travel, snow and ice climbing, belaying and rescue techniques etc.

Limit 16 persons. June 5th (eve.) 8th, 9th and 10th (full days)

Register for both courses at a discount price of \$460.00. This is a substantial reduction compared to commercial courses.

For more information, a complete brochure, and to register, contact Jenny Baillie at (250)-362-5519.

Applications must be received by April 15th 2001.

WANTED...

TOURING BINDING

Unfortunately I managed to break one of my FT88 Fritsche touring bindings. Has anybody done the same and want to part

with their remaining good binding? I need the part that attaches to the boot. Contact Dwain at 825-4654 or dwain@netidea.com.

CORRECTION...

In the last Newsletter, under Cabins and Trails, mention was made of the erection of the "Hamish Hamilton Memorial Plaque" at the Grassy hut. This should of course have read "Hamish Martin Memorial Plaque".

Mea Culpa for careless proofreading, and sincere apologies to the Martins.

EXECUTIVE NOTES...

DEANS RECEIVE LIFE SENTENCE!

We are happy to have received notification from Bob Dean that he is accepting a lifetime membership in the KMC offered by the executive as a token of appreciation for his service to the Club. This honorary family membership also applauds the eight years of work as Newsletter editor contributed by Anne Dean.

SLIDE SHOW

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 19th, Chic Scott showing slides from his book "A Mountaineering History of Canada". The photos include several by and of our members and other locals like Don Vockeroth.

T-SHIRT GRAPHIC

Does anyone know where the original graphic might be located?

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Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

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E-mail Wendy_Hurst@telus.net

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March 2001

ISSUE 3

next deadline: March 25th 2001

UPCOMING WINTER TRIPS...

Mar.	18	TBA (C-D3 probably)	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
	25	Mt Brennan D4	Roland Perrin	352-5480
Apr.	1	Plewman Basin B-C3	Bert Port	365-6056
	8	TBA (C3 probably)	Maurice de St Jorre	352-2401
	13-15	(Easter weekend)		

Classification

A - easy (a short day, little elevation gain) B - fairly easy (a longer day or moderate elevation gain) C - average
(a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D - strenuous (a long day, lots of elevation gain) E - very strenuous (bust a gut).

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

UPCOMING HIKING TRIPS... (see full schedule, including trip classification, attached at back)

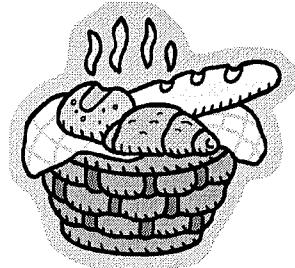
Mar	18	Yellow Pine Trail A-1	Pat Sheppard	365-6486
	25	Mel De Anna Trail A-1	John and Muriel Walton	365-6519
Apr	01	Elephant Mt B-2	Bob Dean	352-0397
	08	Brilliant Bluffs B-1	Hazel Kirkwood	365-5940
	15	Evans Creek B-1	Jill Watson	362-5660

N.B. Trip coordinators should note that they can download copies of the Trip Waiver form from the website

POTLUCK SUPPER AND SLIDE SHOW Robson Hall, Friday, April 20th, 6.30 for 7.00p.m

Surname:

- A to I bring salad or veggie
- J to R bring main course
- S to Z bring dessert



Entertainment:

Andy Morrel and Dave McIntosh will show slides on climbing Mount Logan.

Phone Jill (362-5660) or Jan (362-5289) if you need more information

TRIP REPORTS...

MOUNT FENNEL, SEPTEMBER 24th, 2000

Mount Fennel (2470), which is accessed via infrequently visited Blue Grouse Basin, is located in the NW corner of Kokanee Park.

Drive to the Enterprise Creek forest service road (Hwy 6 between Slocan City and Silverton). Turn east onto a dirt road marked by a BC Parks sign: (KOKANEE GLACIER) ENTERPRISE CREEK 14. Stay on the widened and graded logging company road for 12.3 km. The road narrows (don't cross the bridge on the right), continue .5 km straight ahead to BC Parks kiosk and trailhead at 1340 m. On foot, follow the overgrown Boomerang mining road for 5 minutes. Turn left at the signed junction for Blue Grouse Basin.

We left Nelson Safeway at 7 a.m. and started hiking under a cloudless sky at 9 a.m. From the trailhead (1340 m) it's a 2 hour, 6.4 km – mostly uphill hike – through lodge pole pine, alpine fir, deciduous trees and huckleberry bushes. Snow covered the last 1/3 of the trail, the Basin (2043 m) and the east side of the ridge to Mt. Fennel. In spots, we were in 2-3 cm of snow and where it was windrowed, 12-18 cm.

After a quick snack, we crossed the Basin's bog, scrambled over snow-covered boulders and trekked along the ridge to the top of Mt. Fennel (2470 m). Everyone was on top by 1:15 p.m. We ate lunch, signed the cairn's registry (only 1 entry since September, '99), took photographs and lounged around taking in the rays of the sun. The 360 degree view of the mountains was gorgeous and unimpeded. To the east near Kaslo was Mt. Loki; to the west in the Valhalla's the Devil's Couch; to the south-east the whole Kokanee Glacier, Glory Basin, Outlook and Sunset Mts. We left the top at 2:00 p.m. and after boot skiing down, split into two groups: one group followed the gully to the Basin; the other group roamed over to the dilapidated old miners' cabin and followed the trail below Mt. Paupo and back to the Blue Grouse Basin. Everyone being present, we left the Basin at 3:30 p.m. and were back at the vehicles at 5:15 p.m. (It is interesting to note, the previous years hike started from the trailhead at 10 a.m. and returned by 4 p.m. – but no snow.)

Participants: Jill Watson, Mary Woodward, Sylvia Meredith, Zdena Price, Ross Bates, Maurice De St. Jorre, Don Harasym, Chris Fairbank, Ted Ibrahim

Coordinator Reid Henderson.

ATHABASCA MINE, NOVEMBER 19TH

We started at the Highway 6 end of Giveout Creek Road (near Cottonwood Regional Park), at an elevation of about 900 m, and walked up just past the 6 km marker before turning left up what is now, a logging road. Up to that point there was almost no snow. As we now walked up a steeper road, we started walking in an increasing amount of snow to the high point on the road at a logging landing area (elev. about 1500 m). There were good views from this area, but clouds were covering the

mountain tops, and this was where we decided to eat lunch. We walked back down the road to the mine site that has now changed appearance because of bulldozing for logging trucks, and the mine shaft is no longer visible (elev. about 1430 m). The weather remained overcast but dry, for the return to the cars.

The mine is located at N49° 27.5', 117° 18.7, at an elevation of 1500m.

Participants: Bob Dean, Ray Neumar, Netta Poohachoff.
Coordinator, Ted Ibrahim

BONANZA, JANUARY 14th

Fifteen cross-country skiers met at the Bonanza Creek trailhead at 10:15 a.m. It took us about 30 minutes to reach the Gordon Keir cabin. Dave Watson made a fire in the stove and in no time the cabin turned quite cozy. After a half hour of admiring the cabin with a drink and bite we set off to the Paulson Overlook. About one hour after leaving the cabin we arrived at the overlook, had lunch and started our return trip to the cars. Back on the Mount St Thomas logging road Vicky and Gerda suggested we go on up the road and turn left onto an old mining road making it a circle tour. We all agreed and went for it. We followed some snowmobile tracks to the mine site, checked out the cabin and continued on this old road through willows and alders which made skiing a bit of a challenge, especially the downhill part.

We all made it safely back to the cars by 4:00 p.m. and agreed it was a successful trip. Thank you Vicky and Gerda for guiding us on this interesting side trip. We also thank Walter Volovsek and Peter Wood for brushing and tracking the trail for us 2 days prior to our tour.

Participants: Jill and Dave Watson, Norm and Anna Thyer, Dave Cunningham, Garth Thompson, Pat and Allen Sheppard, Peter and Debbie Korn, Bertrand Girard, Dianne Sharp, Gerda Lang, Vicky Hart

Coordinator, Hans Korn

MOOSE – BEAVER CIRCUIT, JAN 24th

Vehicles were left at the Nancy Green junction and at the entrance to the "Moose" logging road, on the north side of Highway 3, 4km east of the junction. From this point, fourteen skiers set off under mostly sunny skies, a temperature of -5C and good snow conditions. We skied about 4km along the main logging road, at which point there was a good view of Old Glory to the South. Leaving the road, we continued northwards through clearings and treed areas to Moose Meadow and Hut. Here we stopped briefly and then proceeded through the trees on the "Ho Chi Minh" trail. Skiing now in a northeasterly direction, we made our way through a clear-cut, down a spur road and through a small drainage to the Beaver Hut. Although it is small, all of us managed to crowd inside, where we had a cozy lunch and warmed ourselves. Using clear-cuts and spurs leading off Shields Road, we skied north east and then south back to the Nancy Green junction. The 11km trip took approximately four hours including a 30 minute lunch break.

Participants: Renate Belczyk, Angelica Baur, Michael Gilfillan, Della and Fred Fenkner, Gisela Lehmann, Sue and Bert Port, Garth Thomson, Anna and Norm Thyer, Bess Sherman, Yvonne Tremblay.

Coordinator, Janet Cameron

LEMON CREEK - SIX MILE JANUARY 28th

It was a typical cloudy day in the valley as we drove to Lemon Creek to start our trek to Nelson. To our astonishment we were able to drive 10 km along the Lemon Creek road. We did this in 2 wheel drive. From here the road was tracked by skidoos all the way to Nelson, which made the skiing very easy and quick. In an hour we were at Sasquatch Lake for tea. The trees in this area and along the lakes were laden with snow creating the typical Canadian winter wonderland. A group out ice fishing on one of the lakes just landed a nice trout as we passed. Our trip ended at the 3 km mark on the Six Mile Lakes road. It took 4 hours, which included 2 short fuel stops. This is a very popular ski-do area. By starting early we encountered only a few ski-doers. A special thanks goes to Yvonne Tremblay. She was unable to join us skiing but provided the transportation that made the trip possible.

Participants: Jill and Dave Watson

Coordinator Carol Potasnyk

CROWE ROAD – CLIFF ROAD CROSSOVER FEB.7TH

Twelve of us met at the Nancy Green Summit at 9.45a.m. Crowe Road has been ploughed all winter for active logging, so we diverted our route slightly, passing Ol' Timers and Red Dog Cabins on our way to Mosquito Cabin and gaining a moderate amount of elevation from the east side of the highway. The temperature was -16C but the sun was glorious and snow conditions perfect. At Mosquito Cabin we stopped to warm up by the fire and have some lunch. We also sang a rendition of the infamous "Moose Song" from a hiking camp two years ago. From here we skied north along a logging road to a "Y" where we took the left branch coming to a dead end. From this point we made our way easily through a small stand of trees and a clear-cut opening to a spur leading to Cliff Road. The descent on this road is quite steep in places but the snow conditions allowed for comfortable skiing down to the junction with Highway 3B where we had left a transfer vehicle. This was a very enjoyable trip, which offered great views of Old Glory, Gladstone and above the skyline, the tip of Mt. Faith.

This trip of approximately 11km took about four hours including a 30 minute lunch stop.

Participants: Michael Gilfillan, Angelica Baur, Sarah McEwan, Gisela and Edmund Lehmann, Bobby Moras, Norm Thyer, Val Jenner, Hazel Kirkwood, Eliane Miros, Garth Thomson

Coordinator: Janet Cameron

MOSQUITO - RED DOG CABINS, FEB 18th

Thirteen skiers met at the Nancy Green Summit at 10.00a.m. We skied past Cookies and Lynx Cabin to Buffalo Jump

Cabin, where Dave lit the stove to warm up the cabin while we had a snack. We skied towards Mosquito Cabin through a beautiful island stand of trees which will likely be logged in the near future.

By the time the last skiers arrived at the cabin it was nice and warm inside, thanks to Dave. After a 45 minute lunch and story break, we skied back via Red Dog Cabin, arriving at the parking lot at 2.00p.m.

Participants: Jill and Dave Watson, Suzanne Blewett, Carol Potasnyk, Susan Fisher, Al and Pat Sheppard, Angelica Baur, Diane Sharp, Michael Gilfillan, Celeste Doucette, Stewart ?, Coordinator, Hans Korn.

HUCKLEBERRY HUT, MARCH 4th

Sunday March 4, was a beautiful sunny day. At 8:30 at Puerto Rico Road it was -8C. There was about 4" of fresh snow with one ski track from the day before. The skiing was good until the day started to warm up, then the snow got sticky and heavy. Those using skins complained that their skis weighed 40 lbs.

There was no avalanche activity this year on the several chutes that we crossed. We had lunch at the cabin and then proceeded to ski to the old mill site close to the ridge between Cabin peak and Midday peak. When skiing down Maurice and Ross (on tele skis) chose to ski through the trees and avoid the switchbacks on the road. I (on cross-country skis) skied down the road. We met at the cabin. There were complaints about the stickiness of the snow. We had a great run from the cabin to the Barrett Lake road using the heavy snow to slow us down and the up-tracks to speed us up. At the junction of the Barrett Lake road we encountered a ski-do track. This made the skiing to the highway challenging but fun.

Participants: Maurice De St Jorre, Ross Bates,

Coordinator, David Cunningham

KMC OLDTIMER DIES...

Earl Jorgensen, who was involved with the Club for over thirty years, died at home with his family on February 27th. Although he had cancer for several years, he was active in hiking and skiing and a participant in Hiking Camps until a year ago. Earl led many KMC trips, his favourites in the last while being Little Snowy Top on the Idaho Border and the Clearwater Creek to Ymir crossover. Earl was famous for his Hiking Camp story telling and furniture making: twenty stools, two collapsible cook tent tables, ironing board table for tea and dishwashing and the all important biffy seating structure!!

John Stewart

Ed. Note: The Club is making a donation to the Nelson Search and Rescue organization in memory of Earl. John Stewart is preparing a more comprehensive commemoration of Earl for the upcoming Karabiner.

EXECUTIVE NOTES...

Winter Trips. Peter Jordan reports that some of the best back country skiing this year has been in the Blue Ridge area north of Kaslo. In general, despite poor conditions at ski hills, the backcountry skiing this year is better than people think it is. **Conservation.** As part of the Project Review Process, the proponent of the Jumbo Glacier Alpine Resort Development Proposal has agreed to provide funding for mitigation and compensation in relation to the Grizzly population in the area. The latest proposed design for the (public) access road specifies that it be fenced with wildlife overpasses. Hold on to your pocketbooks, taxpayers!!

There is still concern that part of the Hannah Creek basin is included in the Red Mountain Resorts Master Plan, though BCAL officials say this is simply a mistake on the map. KMC comments on this and the implications of ridge line access roads will be part of the KMC's written submission. \$600,000 has been raised so far for the new Slocan Chief Cabin. The ACC will not be handling the bookings for the new cabin after all.

WANTED...

CLIMBING TRIP COORDINATORS

Please let Ross Breakwell know if you are willing to coordinate a climbing trip this summer. Contact him at 362-5169 with details of date, destination and rating.

PHOTOS FOR THE KARABINER

Holly has reports from three years of hiking camps to include in the upcoming Karabiner and would like a few photos to go with the reports. If you have photos from the '98, 99 or 2000 Hiking Camps please scan and send digital copies to her at: ridenour@netidea.com or mail copies to: RR2 S14 C9, Nelson, B.C V1L 5P5. Phone: 354 4148

PHOTOS OF THE SLOCAN CHIEF CABIN

Peter Mackie of Parks B.C. in Nelson is looking for photos of the Slocan Chief Cabin taken during renovations in the 1960's.

BILLETING FOR CHIC SCOTT

The Chic Scott Slide Show has been changed to Thursday, May 24th and will be held at Selkirk College. He would like a place to stay so we need someone to offer to billet him overnight. If you'd like do this, please let Jan know at 362-5289.

HIKING CAMPS 2001...

By the time this reaches you, the deadline to be included in the March 15th lottery draw for Hiking Camp will have probably passed. However, Laurie reports that the number of applications is slightly down this year, so the wait lists (if any) will be shorter and applicants who missed the deadline will have a better than usual chance of getting in!!

TEMPORARILY OUT OF ORDER...

Fellow climbers will be sorry to hear that due to a skiing encounter with a hidden snag, KMC member Steve Horvath will be out of commission for a while. We wish him a speedy recovery from the multiple fractures he suffered.

CHECK OUT...

Alan Kane's cool website: cadvision.com/akane/climbs.htm

From Kim Kratky

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5
KMC WEBSITE: www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

The KMC Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Wendy Hurst, 1696 Thrum Road, Castlegar, V1N 4N4 => N.B. address change
E-mail: Wendy.Hurst@telus.net

SUBMISSIONS: I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the trip. Articles may be submitted on paper or by E-mail. When sending E-mail attachments, please "save as" MS Word if you are using other word processing software before sending.

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MEMBERSHIP (including changes of address)

The annual KMC dues are:

Individual	\$20
Couple/Family	\$25
Junior	\$10

Send to: KMC Membership
c/o Joan Grodzki
RR#1, S-13, C-19
Nelson, BC V1L 5P4

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

April/May 2001

ISSUE 4

next deadline: May 25th

UPCOMING TRIPS...

April	29	Merry Creek Trail A-1	Hazel Kirkwood	365-5940
May	05s	Montrose Overlook A-1	Hanspeter Korn	367-9277
	06	Copper Mt B-1	Christine Sutherland	226-7405
	12s	Red Mt/Granite Mt	Jill Watson	362-5660
	13	TBA	Steven Miro	365-5707
	19	Blizzard Mt B-2	Hanspeter Korn	367-9277
	20	Old Glory C-2	Ted Ibrahim	505-2085
	23w	Mt. Kaslo B-3	Kim Kratky	352-3895
	26s	Violin Lake A-1	Mary Baker	368-5530
	27	TBA C-3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
June	02s	Elephant Mt. A-1	Bess Schuurman	354-4275
	03	Saddle Mountain Ridge C- 3	Bill Sones	265-4542
	09s	Galena Trail A-1	Chris Fairbank	354-3800
	10	Idaho Lookout via Wakefield Trail C-2	Vicki Hart	442-2909

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

Physical: A - easy B - fair C - average D strenuous E - very strenuous

Technical: 1. - hike 2. - scramble 3. - scramble perhaps with some exposure 4. - climb 5. - climb, continual belays

NOTE: The average trip is rated C-3.

N.B. Trip coordinators should note that they can download copies of the Trip Waiver form from the website

"PUSHING THE LIMITS...."

The KMC is proud to be hosting Chic Scott, respected guide, mountaineer and writer on Thursday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sentinel Room of Selkirk College's Castlegar campus. Chic will be presenting a slide show based on his recent book "Pushing the Limits: The Story of Canadian Mountaineering," for which he received three awards at this year's Banff Mountain Book and Film Festival. The book and the slide presentation introduce early mountain pioneers and modern day climbing athletes. An adept storyteller, Chic showcases the under-celebrated achievements of Canadian climbers in a most entertaining way.

As well as being honoured for his writing ability, this year he was selected as recipient of the Bill March Summit of Excellence Award, presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to mountain life in the Canadian Rockies.

Don't miss this fascinating slide show. Tickets were sold at the Spring Social and starting April 28 will be available at the following outlets:

The Powderhound in Rossland, Mallard's in Castlegar, Snowpack in Nelson and Selkirk Computers in Trail. The cost is \$5.00.

TRIP REPORTS...

KOOTENAY COLUMBIA – MONTE CHRISTO CIRCUIT, MARCH 8th

This trip was originally scheduled for February 28th and was changed to March 8th as we hoped this day would bring blue skies, sunshine and good snow conditions....which it did!! Leaving one car at the Rossland end of the Centennial Trail, we met at the Rossland Library at 10.00a.m. and proceeded to the parking lot at the old mining school road. Here we began a counter-clockwise route around Kootenay Columbia and Monte Christo Mountains – the “Coffee Run” – through both open and treed terrain to the Rock Cut Pub. The comforts of the pub and its sunny deck made for an enjoyable lunch and visit. We then crossed Highway 3B to the Centennial Trail and skied out to Rossland. The group found this a fairly easy ski (10km) and a fun day.

Trip members: Anna and Norm Thyer, Michael Gilfillan, Angelica Baur, Ron Cameron, Bobbie Maras, Roth Sawatzky, verna Beaulieu, Yvonne Tremblay, Pat and Garth Thomson.
Trip Coordinator, Janet Cameron.

BRILLIANT BLUFFS, APRIL 8

Five of us met at the Brilliant Park and Ride and leaving our vehicles there, we hiked in light rain along Scattebo Reach to the Brilliant Overlook junction. We followed this trail up to the McPhee Creek viewpoint and then on through snow to the Brilliant Bluffs area. Snow, large lake-like pools of water and a non-existent view made us decide not to go to our usual lunch stop, at the end of the ridge overlooking the Brilliant Dam. Instead we went on to the helicopter pad and made use of the welcome shelter of its overhang.

A logging road has cut through our former route down, so we had to hike the road until we were able to pick up the trail again just above the golf course.

Participants: Ted Ibrahim, Don Harasym, Diane Macqueen and Jill Watson.

Coordinator: Hazel Kirkwood

ROBSON BLUFFS, APRIL 22

The starting place was the old Robson tennis courts. This year's route involved an asymmetrical figure-of-8 double loop. The shorter south loop, swung S.E. skirting the clear cut and approached the top of the Lion's head from the East. After lunch at the viewpoint we hiked north along the ridge and dropped down to cross our tracks and began the north loop, heading now North East. Following a series of trails and old roads, we reached a viewpoint above the corridor cleared for the CPC power lines from the Keenleyside project. Thence we dropped steeply down across the corridor and swung southward back to the bench above the tennis courts.

The large number of possible routes in this area is due to many interconnecting trails which have been developed over the years by walkers, bikers and horseback riders.

A variety of landforms and aspects provides for a range of vegetation types and wildlife and a Spring hike in the area is particularly enjoyable.

Participants: Andrew Martin, Kay Medland, Marilyn Gauthier, Pat and Al Shepphard, Hazel Kirkwood, Yvette Johnson, Ruth Sawatsky, Marcia Marinus, Katy Dmytruk, Jill Watson, John Bargh, Don Harasym, Ray Neumar, Vera Maloff, Wendy Hurst, Ted Ibrahim, Carol Potasnyk, Bob Dean.

Coordinator, Ed Beynon

TRAIL ACCESS...

The following Email from Claire Hurley re the beginning of the Pulpit Rock Trail was forwarded by Don Harasym for inclusion in the Newsletter:

“This trail is now closed. Signs have been removed. Please advise all KMC members in your next newsletter that both approaches to Pulpit Rock are closed as they cross my private land.....”

Ms Hurley has also asked local schools to not use this trail for field trips. So far, the general public, which is by far the most numerous and frequent user of the trail, has not been notified in the local press.

WANTED...

TRIP COORDINATORS FOR HIKING AND BIKING TRIPS.

Eight hiking trips require coordinators. The dates are: July 18, 21 and 28, August 8, Nov 18, 25. Call Don at 354-4578 if you would be willing to coordinate a hike on any of these dates.

Six bike trips require coordinators. If you would like to coordinate a bike trip, pick a date from the TBA slots on the attached list and call Carol at 352-0870.

CONSERVATION...

SNOWWATER CREEK APPLICATION TURNED DOWN

BC Assets and Lands Corporation has announced that the commercial back country recreation application by Snowwater Creek Lodge to carry out a variety of activities in the Bonnington Range has been disallowed. According to the news release that appeared in Pennywise for Jan 09, 2001, “The Snowwater Creek tenure application generated intense

public reaction from residents of Nelson, Castlegar, Trail, Salmo, and several smaller communities. BCAL received numerous letters and petitions from individuals, snowmobile clubs, a mountaineering club, and a gun club expressing opposition to the idea of adding commercial recreation activity to the current level of use."

Thanks to all those who wrote.

Kim Kratky

BOB DEAN'S EMAIL LIST...

If you are no longer receiving KMC Updates via Email from Bob Dean, please resend your Email address to Bob at bdean@clock.ca. His most recent list was "lost" and the list he is using is four months old.

EXECUTIVE NOTES...

Trip coordinators should be reminded to take waiver forms and get them signed, and also to encourage non-members to join the Club.

A donation of \$150 and a letter expressing thanks to the KMC for helping maintain the Bonnington Range huts was received from Rick Schroeder of The College of the Rockies. He skitoured the route with a group and was much impressed with both the terrain and the cabins.



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

KMC WEBSITE: www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

The KMC Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.
EDITOR: MARY H. DEGOLZI-CARLIS

EDITOR: Wendy Hurst, RR2 S17, C15, Castlegar, V1N 3L4

E-mail Wendy_Hurst@telus.net

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Junior	\$10

Send to: KMC Membership
c/o Joan Grodzki
RR#1, S-13, C-19
Nelson, BC V1L5P4

BIKE TRIPS, 2001

April	27	7 Mile – Procter return B1	Yvonne Tremblay	825-9238
May	4	Fort Shepherd Area B2	Jill Watson	362-5660
	11	Creston Area B2	Harry Smarsden	428-2495
	18	Trail-Paterson Loop C1	Carol Potasnyk	352-0780
	25	Rossland Trails C3	Diane Paolini	362-5662
June	1	Paulsen Summit – Castlegar via railway C3	Hans Korn	367-9277
	8	New Denver – Summit Lake via railway C3	Hans Korn	367-9277
	15	Columbia River Trail C3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	22	Nelson – Salmo return C1	Ted Ibrahim	505-2085
	29	Trail – Nelway return via Seven Mile Dam C3	Anya Logodi	362-7247
July	6	Cottonwood – Troup B2	Mary Woodward	825-4491
	13	Cottonwood Lake – Ymir B2	Yvonne Tremblay	825-9238
	20	Passmore – Appledale return B2	Murielle Perrin	352-5480
	27	TBA Leader required		0800 Woodward
August	3	TBA Leader required		
	9	TBA Leader required		
	17	TBA Leader required		
	24	Creston Area B2	Harry Smarsden	428-2495
	31	Galena Trail C3	Suzanne Blewett contact Carol for details	352-0780
September	7	Hannah Creek C4	Jill Watson	362-5660
	14	TBA	Renata Belczyk	365-5134
	21	Kuskanux Trail, Nakusp C3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	28	Old Cascade Highway – Christina Lake C3	Anya Logodi	362-7247
October	5	Slocan Junction – Castlegar C1	Mary Woodward	825-4491
	12	TBA Leader required		
	18	Six Mile – Lemon Creek (may be overnighter) C3	Carol Potasnyk	352-0780
	26	TBA Leader required		

Trip Classification

Physical A = easy (short day, little elevation gain) B – fair (longer day or moderate elevation gain) C – average (a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D – strenuous (long day, lots of elevation gain) E – very strenuous

Technical 1 – suitable for all bikes 2 – hybrid or mountain bike recommended 3 – moderate mountain biking skills required 4 – advanced mountain biking abilities on steep or exposed trails , difficult route finding may be involved 5 – extreme mountain biking skills necessary

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER

June 2001

ISSUE 5

next deadline: July 1st

UPCOMING HIKES...

June	13w	Glade to Brilliant B-1	Bess Schuurman	354-4275
	16s	TBA	Steven Miro	365-5707
	17	Sphinx Mt. C-3	Peter Jordan	352-5225
	20w	Mt Yuill C-3	Robin Lidstone	825-4260
	23s	Grays Peak C-3	David Beringer	352-6290
	24	Outlook Mt. C-3	Jenny Baillie	362-5519
	27w	Ymir Mt. C-3	Mary Woodward	825-4491
	30s	Record Ridge B-2	Hanspeter Korn	367-9277
July	01	Sapphire Lakes C-2	Anja Logodi	362-7247
	04w	TBA	Howie Ridge	354-4909
	07s	Mt. Drinnon C-3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	08	Mt Martin and Inverness C - 3	Bill Sones	265-4542

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

Physical: A – easy B – fair C - average D strenuous E - very strenuous

Technical: 1. – hike 2. – scramble 3. – scramble perhaps with some exposure 4. – climb 5. – climb, continual belays

NOTE: The average trip is rated C-3.

UPCOMING BIKE TRIPS...

June	15	Columbia River Trail C3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	22	Nelson – Salmo return C1	Ted Ibrahim	505-2085
	29	Trail – Nelway return via Seven Mile Dam C3	Anya Logodi	362-7247
July	6	Cottonwood – Troup B2	Mary Woodward	825-4491
	13	Cottonwood Lake – Ymir B2	Yvonne Yremblay	825-9238

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

Physical: A – easy (short day, little elevation gain) B – fair (longer day or moderate elevation gain) C – average (a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D – strenuous (long day, lots of elevation gain) E – very strenuous

Technical: 1 – suitable for all bikes 2 – hybrid or mountain bike recommended 3 – moderate mountain biking skills required 4 – advanced mountain biking abilities on steep or exposed trails , difficult route finding may be involved 5 – extreme mountain biking skills necessary

N.B. Trip coordinators should note that they can download copies of the Trip Waiver form from the website

CLIMBING TRIP SCHEDULE, SUMMER 2001...

Please note that some weekends have more than one trip scheduled. Contact leaders well in advance for details. All climbing trips assume participants have technical climbing skills.
For trip rating see hiking trip schedule.

	Date	Destination	Coordinator	Phone
June	23,24	Wolf's Ears, B-4	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
	23,24	Piton Peaks, C-4	Kim Kratky	352-3895
July	7,8	Mt. Dryden, C-4	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
	16,17,18	Charybdis, C-4	Kim Kratky	352-3895
July 28 – August 4	20,21,22	Red Top and Earl Grey	Kim Kratky	352-3895
	21,22	Truce and Cauldron	Ken Holmes	362-7723
August	18,19	Climbing Camp, Adamants	Ross Breakwell	362-5169
	September 8,9	Beaver, Sugarloaf, C-4	Peter Tchir	352-5959
		Devil's Dome, B-4	Ross Breakwell	362-5169

TRIP REPORTS...

KETTLE VALLEY RAILWAY (SHIELDS – CASTLEGAR SECTION), MAY 13TH

This hike, though not what everyone expected (and I must apologize for that) was one that had been on the back of my mind for some time. The opportunity seemed to present itself on this day. Although it was really only a long blistering walk, the route did give a different perspective compared to what one experiences on a bike ride.

After car shuffling to the Syringa Creek Group Campsite we took turns working our way across the lake in a small boat (The 3 men in a tub were probably more comfortable and definitely less wet!).

We began the march (two by two) at the mouth of Shields (Moberly) Creek. It was a short distance to the railbed where Bob, his sore toe (which was only good for climbing and not for flat surface walking) and Anne parted company by turning east down the track. (Apparently they had also seen a tunnel previously).

We continued the walk to and on top of the first tunnel where we lunched amidst shooting stars and flowering strawberries. The views were of Tulip Creek and westwards up the Arrow Lake to Deer Park and Renata, which made some of us think of another possible boat trip and hike to the Landbridge or

Bulldog Lookout.

After lunch we turned back, but regardless of our blistering pace, could not catch our compatriots. (That second rest stop may have had something to do with it). We did however enjoy the flowering clematis, impressive retaining walls, large fresh bear dropping and of course views of the Lake, Mount Sentinel, Siwash Mountain and Pot Hill. We met Bob and Anne at the dam whereafter we had a close-up view of the new canal project.

I must thank the following for their company and perseverance:

Eliane Miros, Netta Casciano, Bob Dean, Frank Fodor, Don Harasym, Ted Ibrahim, Hans Peter Korn, Anne Kwan, Pat and Al Sheppard, Jill Watson, Mary Woodward.
Coordinator, Steve Miros

MAY 18, 2001 TRAIL- NORTHPORT-WANETA- TRAIL

This was a classic KMC trip. Three cyclists left the pullout by Cominco in Trail. They cycled up the Rossland hill to Warfield. From Warfield they followed the railway to Rossland. This route to the museum took 2 hours and was 17 km. The most difficult section was getting through Rossland to the museum. Thanks to Jill's guidance, we missed the killer hills. A fourth cyclist, figuring he was late, did not meet at the Cominco pullout. Not knowing the planned route they cycled to the museum via the Trail Rossland Highway. His journey took 40 minutes and he arrived an hour before the first party.

Two others decided to forget the Rossland hill and drove to the museum. Amazingly we all met at the museum a hour later than the scheduled time. From then on the group remained together for the most of the trip. The trip to Northport was fast and cool. We lunched and warmed ourselves in the sunny Northport park. Our route followed the scenic Columbia back to Trail. This was a pleasant 81 km trip which involved 6 hours of riding time. Total trip time was 81/2 hours.

Participants were Jill Watson, Hans Korn, Dave Adams, Bess Schruuman, Jennifer Frisk

Coordinator, Carol Potsnyk

OLD GLORY 2001 May 20th

Despite the beautiful, sunny day, only 3 of us met at the trailhead at 9am. Even though there was much less snow than usual last winter, there was snow at the trailhead. As we started hiking, we found that there were clear patches of trail and then other areas with deep snow. Some of the snow was quite soft, particularly higher up and at times our legs were dropping deeply into the snow. Most of the time we were following other recent tracks. Close to treeline, it looked as if the previous party had camped. From this campsite further tracks led to the high point on Plewman Ridge rather than the Old Glory route to Unnecessary Ridge and we decided to follow the tracks since it was clear from the conditions that Old Glory was an unreasonable target. We reached the high point of Plewman Ridge after 2½ hours and enjoyed lunch under ideal conditions (elevation gain 785 m). The return trip took about half an hour less, but the softening snow made it even more difficult than the trip up.

Participants: Vicki Hart, Don Harasym and Ted Ibrahim.
Coordinator, Ted Ibrahim

ROSSLAND TRAILS - "TOUR DE CALDERA", MAY 25th

The "Tour de Caldera" was so named by Don Vockeroth, for the route around the rim (caldera) of the ancient volcano that Rossland is located in. We left the Mine- Museum at 9:45a.m. on a clear, sunny day for a pleasant tour of the well-groomed bike trails, including Museum Loop, Larry's Loop, Centennial Trail, Kootenay-Columbia, Dilly's, Wagon Road, Rubberhead, Railgrade, and Drake's Loop, which brought us back to the Museum by 4:30. These are all beginner to intermediate trails maintained by the Rossland Trails Society. En route, we left our bikes for a short hike to the Kootenay-Columbia summit for our morning snack and a great view of Rossland below. We had a nice showing of spring flowers on top, as well. Lunch was at the Golf Course and a welcome refreshment stop. We made it through a long, hot day with only a few scrapes and scratches. Many thanks to Hans, the "sweeper" at the end for much of the trip, and to Jill for the frozen yogourt treat at the end.

Participants: Jill Watson, Yvonne Tremblay, Mary

Woodward, Hans Korn, Mary Prothro,
Coordinator, Diane Paolini

MOUNT BALDY, MAY 27th

My original plan to go up Baldy was to go in by Porcupine Road (about 1 km south of Ymir). When Hans called to find out the details of the trip, he reminded me of a more interesting route that starts from the top of Wildhorse Creek. I checked the trip reports from the past 12 years to find this route. (I knew I kept those things for something!) There have been three previous trips scheduled to Baldy in those years. Two trips actually went, one by each of the two routes.

For those of you who don't keep newsletters for years, the route is quite simple. After the, now open, Darkwoods Gate, at kilometer 17, continue to the obvious height of land and park in the clearing. Head in a southerly direction to the top of the hill and Baldy will come into view, assuming you have good weather. In any case, contour around the hill to an obvious col, and head up the north facing ridge. It's a bit sketchy for some people. There are patches of moss, small and dead trees, loose rocks, and a bit of exposure. This time of year, one must beware of the cornices along the summit ridge, that tapers around toward the west.

Ten of us went. We had bluebird-sky weather. Three decided to ascend E-Baldy and bask in the sun rather than climb to the main summit of T-Baldy. I forgot my hat, and was relieved when I found a snowboarder's helmet to cover my head. I think seeing the leader don a helmet may have put some of the potential summiteers off. I really did find the helmet, honest! One other stopped on a ledge most of the way up the summit ridge, stalled, no doubt, by a great view.

The group was Ted Ibrahim, Maurice de St Jorre, Mary Preshro, Hanspeter Korn, John Bargh, Steven Miro, Andrew Martin, Mary Woodward, Jill Watson and the leader.
Coordinator, David Mitchell

SADDLE MOUNTAIN, JUNE 3rd

6 of us met in Nakusp at 9:00 and then drove south to cross the Arrow Park Ferry and then took forestry roads up to the trail head at 5000'. At about 6000' we encountered a shallow unconsolidated snowpack that was hard slogging at times. Because of this and the uncertain weather the original objective of the north ridge on Saddle Mtn was changed to the lookout which we reached around 1:00 at 7700'. After a leisurely lunch in the tower we climbed the south peak of the "saddle" and then slid down 800' of snow in various fashions and hiked back to the vehicles.

Participants: Jim Ryan, Mary Woodward, Hans Korn, Carol Potsnyk, Jill Watson
Coordinator Bill Sones

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5

KMC WEBSITE: www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

The KMC Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Wendy Hurst, 1696 Thrums Road, Castlegar, V1N 4N4

E-mail: Wendy_Hurst@telus.net

SUBMISSIONS: I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the trip. Articles may be submitted on paper or by E-mail.

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

MEMBERSHIP (including changes of address)

The annual KMC dues are:

Individual	\$20
Couple/Family	\$25
Junior	\$10

Send to: KMC Membership
c/o Joan Grodzki
RR#1, S-13, C-19
Nelson, BC V1L 5P4

THE KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEER

Kootenay Mountaineering Club

UPCOMING HIKES...

August	04s	Cabin Work	Mark Hamilton	352-5824
	05	Crawford Creek Headwaters C-2	Dave Dever	354-3415
	08w	Idaho Peak/Selkirk Mtn B-3	Ed Beynon	365-7324
	11s	TBA	Kathy Hendren	354-4219
	12	Toad Mt B-2	Susan Fisher	352-7156
	15w	Texas Peak C-3	Christine Sutherland	226-7405
	18s	TBA	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
	19	Old Glory C-2	Anji Logodi	362-7247
	22w	Dolly Varden C-3	Ted Ibrahim	505-2085
	25s	Mt Gimli C-4	David Berringer	352-6290
	26	TBA	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
	29w	TBA	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Sept	01s	TBA	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
	02	Big Sister and Rugged Peaks ?	Bill Sones	265-4542
	03	Slocan Chief Cabin C-1	Christine Sutherland	226-7405
	05w	Mt Rinda CD-3	Bob Dean	352-0397
	08s	Powder Creek C-3	Ted Ibrahim	505-2085
	08-09	McBeth Icefield Traverse D-4	Robin Lidstone	825-4260

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

Physical: A - easy B - fair C - average D - strenuous E - very strenuous

Technical: 1 - hike 2 - scramble 3 - scramble perhaps with some exposure 4 - climb 5 - climb, continual belays

NOTE: The average trip is rated C-3.

UPCOMING BIKE TRIPS...

August	3	Passmore to LittleSlocan Lake B-2	Dave Adams	355-0055
	10	TBA	Carol Potasnik	352-0780
	17	Dewdney Trail C-4	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	24	Creston Area B2	Harry Smarsden	428-2495
	31	Galena Trail C3	Suzanne Blewett (contact Carol for details)	352-0780
Sept	7	Hannah Creek C4	Jill Watson	362-5660
	14	TBA	Renata Belczyk	365-5134

Trip Classification

Physical A - easy (short day, little elevation gain) B - fair (longer day or moderate elevation gain) C - average (a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D - strenuous (long day, lots of elevation gain) E - very strenuous

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Please note that some weekends have more than one trip scheduled. Contact leaders well in advance for details. All climbing trips assume participants have technical climbing skills. For trip rating see hiking trip schedule.

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August 18,19	Beaver, Sugarloaf, C-4	Peter Tchir	362-5959
September 8,9	Devil's Dome, B-4	Ross Breakwell	362-5169

IN THE NEWS... MOUNT BINKERT, 9788'

The B.C. Mountaineering Club is very pleased to announce that a mountain in the Lillooet Icefields region has been officially named Mt. Binkert. The new Mt Binkert is a 9,788' summit on the west side of the Frank Smith Glacier. The announcement was recently made by Geographic Data BC.

Paul Binkert was an honorary member and the honorary president of the B.C.M.C. until his death in 1995. He was a member of the team which made the second, and first Canadian ascent of Mt. Fairweather in 1958. He also climbed Mt Waddington with a B.C.M.C. expedition in 1962.

(An early ascent of the mountain and the second Canadian). Paul contributed to the B.C.M.C. in many ways from the 1950's to the 1990's especially in volunteer instruction of novices and the construction and maintenance of mountain trails. Many of the trails we now enjoy were created or maintained by Paul and he was an inspiration to others in that role. The Binkert Trail, which leads to the Lions from Lions Bay, was named in his honor.

Paul was a notable sculptor, conservationist and a man of principle.

THANK YOU...

The following letter was sent in appreciation of our Club's excellent ethics in conservation and camping practices.
A big THANK YOU goes to all of you camp participants!



(Handwritten mark)
My apologies for not sending you this correspondence much earlier. It is the intent of this letter to convey to you my compliments upon both a socially successful and environmentally sensitive, hiking camp last summer in Canyon Creek, west of Golden.

On two separate occasions, with the assistance of a local Conservation Officer, I undertook inspections of your club's camp facilities to monitor your collective "footprint" upon the pristine wilderness landscape necessary for this event. On both occasions, I am pleased to report that I was most satisfied with your efforts toward minimum impact camping practices, and the KMC's obvious commitment to backcountry ethics to this end. Little evidence of your occupation remains, and to the untrained eye, it appears no humans have ever set foot in the area.

Large group oriented backcountry camping is on the increase in the Columbia District, and as per our previous discussions, is a source of concern in terms of its cumulative affects upon the landbase. Although organized groups such as the KMC or Alpine Club of Canada are considered excellent stewards in terms of camping ethics, there is a growing occupancy of the unorganized element whose ethics and education are questionable. Evidence of their activity include large areas of dead heather, felled krummholz, fire pits, and litter, within pristine alpine lake environs.

We have talked previously regarding the seriousness of this issue, and should I have the ability, I will be moving to establish a more formalized "permit" system for organized backcountry access, and requesting developmental assistance from the local helicopter companies, the ACC and the KMC. The intent of this system would be to establish a monitoring presence for such activities and an educational venue for proper etiquette in the backcountry.

Thank-you for your interest in this topic, and I look forward to working with you in the future on all related endeavours.

Yours truly,

Jon Wilsgard, Recreation Officer, Columbia Forest District

NOTES FROM JUNE 12TH EXECUTIVE MEETING...

Social: The Chic Scott slide show and talk was enjoyed by a large group of people and the Club even made a little money after expenses.

The new KMC T-shirts have been designed and costed out. Paying for them up front will require expenditure greater than the limit for which the executive is authorized, so a special membership meeting will be combined with the next executive meeting to deal with this. (See notice of special meeting).

Here is a scaled down version of the printed drawing that will appear on the back of the new KMC T-shirts.



(The front will show the KMC logo). The drawing is by our KMC member Jenny Baillie of Rossland. The picture is brightly colored on an oatmeal background. Cost would be about \$20.00 and the T-shirts could be for sale at the next A.G.M.

Conservation: Kim has studied a new application for a commercial, back country tenure in the headwaters of Ice Creek at the western edge of the Valhalla Wilderness Park. The proposal includes:

- 1 Remote, self-propelled back country skiing
- 2 Winter use only
- 3 Helicopter access from Burton
- 4 A small lodge and outhouses, all sewage to be flown out
- 5 Operation to expand from 168 client days in the first year to 1,000 by year three

Kim pointed out that most of the skiing will likely take place within the Park. However he doesn't really have any negative comments and will send a letter indicating the Club's lack of opposition to this application.

The proponent of the Bonnington Range back country tenure application (Snowwater Creek area) has agreed to all the changes suggested by the KMC in his revised application and Kim is now seeking assurances that these commitments will be included in writing as part of the license.

Huts and Trails: Mark has arranged a special trip to the Grassy Hut to erect the Hamish Hamilton memorial plaque. (See notice on this page).

It was Mark's last executive meeting as he will be heading off in the fall to school in Vancouver as part of a career change. Thank you, Mark, for all the work you have done, and good luck.

N.B. This will mean that the **Huts and Trails** portfolio as well as **Winter Trips** and **Hiking Camp** positions will be up for grabs at the A.G.M., so please start thinking about suitable nominees or volunteers!

Newsletter: Discussion on changing the format, content and frequency of Newsletters was initiated. If members have any ideas on this please forward them to Paul or Eliane.

President: Paul reported on a conference call among consulting groups for the Kokanee Glacier Alpine Campaign. One suggestion is to change the site of the proposed new backcountry hut to the north end of Kaslo Lake instead of having it close to the Slocan Chief Cabin site.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING...

Members are asked to attend a combined **Special KMC general meeting** to be held in conjunction with executive meeting.

Time: **7.30 p.m.**

Date: **September 11th**

Location **Robson Hall**

Tea, coffee and treats will be available!!!

The purpose is to ask members to approve an up front expenditure of \$3,500 to purchase 200 KMC T-shirts for resale to members. According to the constitution, the executive only has spending discretion for up to \$1000.

HAMISH MARTIN MEMORIAL PLAQUE ERECTED...

On June 23rd, a group of KMC'ers, led by Mark Hamilton, hiked in to the Grassy Hut to erect a plaque in memory of Hamish.

The new stove in the hut was purchased by a special donation to the Club by Ian and Libby Martin in Hamish's memory.

Please read the information on this special outing in the **Trip Report** section of this newsletter.

TRIP REPORTS

Slocan Lake to Evans Creek, June 2

A repeat of the April 13th hike but with eight new hikers. Plus new wildflowers out, on the 8km trail along the south side of Slocan Lake to Evans Creek Falls and Campground.

Some of the flowers identified were the Calypso orchid, yellow monkey flower, larkspur, death camas, alumroot, old mans whiskers, and lots of queen's cups.

Weatherwise it looked like we might get rained out. We did get hit with maybe a half hour shower as we hiked in and then another short one when we arrived after 2 ½ hours hiking. The arrival shower was no problem as we ate our lunch sitting on firewood blocks in the Adirondack shelter.

After lunch we explored the campground area, walking up to the bridge high over Evans Creek and the waterfall below. On the lakeshore are still remnants of old machinery. This had been a logging camp and the trail we had just hiked in on, was a workers' trail built in the 1920's.

The remainder of the trip was great weatherwise. Even had sunshine and birds singing as we walked beside the lake.

We were: Nell Plotnikoff, Netta Casciano, Diane Cushing, Kathryn Steber, Ruth Sawatzky, Alison Katzko, Debbie Sabourin and coordinator Bess Schuurman.

Idaho Peak, 2280m 7480', June 10

The group met at Playmor Junction at 7:30 a.m. in the pouring rain. We began our hike at 9:00 a.m. on the Wakefield Trail in fairly good spirits. A few of us had umbrellas and rain gear was not optional!! The 5 km trail is fairly easy to follow up to the Idaho Peak Lookout. We did encounter fresh snow and lunch at the lookout did not offer much of a view, although the sun was trying to make an appearance.

At 12:30 we bundled up and headed down the trail. The clouds did part and out came beautiful, warm sunshine. At this point we snapped a few photographs and took off a few layers of clothing.

We were back at the vehicles at approximately 2:30 and chatted for awhile before driving down. A great day! Participants: Julie Pelletier, Jenn Cox, Don Harasym, Ted Ibrahim, Andrew Martin, Frank Fodor and coordinator Vicki Hart.

Columbia River Trail, June 15

The weather report told us that we should be prepared for showers and clouds, but the day started sunny, and stayed that way most of the day. There were a few brief showers, but no big soaker showers.

We started at the Castlegar weigh station. If you want to park there, the officer in the booth says to park to the east side of the scale readout. Don't park on the field because the residents' wells are there, and they get upset. We followed the paved road to the Ootischenia dump, and after the gravel, on to the gate. The gate is easily passed on bikes, but is meant to

keep out motor vehicles. At the first Y in the road, you can go either up or down. They both connect. The LHS is a gentler climb. Stay on the main road until you get to a gully. Take the road to the left then immediately right, and head down to cross Champion Creek. From there, the route is obvious.

At the point roughly across from the big island in the Columbia near Genelle, the trail turns from double track to single track. This trail offers a bit of everything. The first part goes over baby heads and into tall ferns and forest. Then it comes out to exposed, off-camber sandy sections. Fortunately, the recent rain kept these bits reasonably firm. After a long dry spell, it might be difficult to keep your traction. The technique seems to be go fast enough to power through these sandy sections, and take it easy with your front brake. After the sand, the trail goes through an open flat area with junipers and pines, and back into the forest. The trail begins to undulate and gets quite rocky and a bit exposed in sections. (Well, some people felt it was exposed for bike riding). The last 500 to 700 metres before the double track that goes to Sunningdale is the most technically difficult. We stopped at the beginning of the double track into Sunningdale, that is about 3 or 4 km away.

After lunch there, and 20.5 km of riding, we decided not to go to the Dairy Queen in Trail, and headed back the way we came. The trip took 7 hours including lots of breaks, walking and portages. (The consensus was that in future, this trip should be rated as C-4, because of the 6 or 7 km of single track).

We were Jan Issacs, Carol Potasnyk, Anya Logodi, Bert Port, Hans Korn, Dave Adams and coordinator David Mitchell.

Palisades, June 16

This was a new hike to an infrequently visited peak. The Palisades are approximately 2 km south of Frog Peak (Mount Wilton). It is at the headwaters of Norns Creek (Pass Creek) and can be reached via a good logging road. It can also be reached from the Frog Peak access road. The views toward the Valhallas, Airy Mountain and Little Slocan Lakes are great. There are views in all directions, Frog Peak however loses its grandeur from this vantage.

From the junction of Pass Creek Road and Robson Access Road (Broadwater Road), which is at the old school house, one travels 9.8 km up Pass Creek Road to its junction with Norns Road. Turn west (left) up Norns Road for 11 km. One comes to the only real branchement going north and it occurs shortly after a cement bridge. A forestry sign makes notice of the deactivated bridge further on and marks our turn north (right). One travels up this road for 5.5 km to the bridge parking area. (There is only one spur going to the right which we ignore). Cross the creek on the logs provided and follow the main road for approximately 40 minutes of easy walking. Kamikazi Peak is on the left and the destination, the Palisades is on the right. There are 2 high points on the mountain but they are essentially part of the same ridge. The best way to do the bushwack is to aim for the right hand side of the larger peak. Pick a high spot on the clearcut to the right and go for it. As long as you are going north through the forest you won't miss the ridge. Approximately 1.5 hour of bushwacking and perhaps a bit of scrambling will bring you to the grassy slopes leading to the ridge's highpoint.

On our day the summit had a very cold biting wind with occasional spots of sunshine, hail and snow. We essentially returned by the same route and had some rain as we neared the vehicles.

Participants: Jan Micklethwaite, Pat and Al Sheppard, Ron Perrier and coordinator Steven Miros.

Sphinx Mountain, 2551m, June 17

On a sunny Sunday morning (finally!) 13 of us caught the ferry and drove up the Gray Creek road. The approach to Sphinx Mtn uses the WKP powerline road to the north Gray Creek Pass, and then follows an old trail from the pass to alpine meadows underneath Sphinx. To find this somewhat obscure trail, go to the west end of the snow course (marked by numbered poles) and look for the trail diagonally uphill to the northwest.

The road was rough, but passable to high-clearance 4WD pickups. We were surprised by the amount of snow on the trail and in the meadows. The route to the peak featured very steep meadows with a skiff of fresh snow from the last week. It made for slippery going, but we all made it to the summit and back without mishap. The summit of Sphinx has great views of all three arms of Kootenay Lake. It also features a geologic curiosity - a 700 million year old glacial till (called the Toby Conglomerate).

The good weather lasted until we were down - although there were a few afternoon showers they missed us. We arrived at Kootenay Bay just in time for the little ferry, which had room for only some of our vehicles. We were: Eliane Miros, Hazel Kirkwood, Ted Ibrahim, Netta Casiano, Gay Saunders, Julie Pelletier, Mary Woodward, Vicki Hart, Stacey Goosen, Jen Cox, Chris and Sean Fairbank, and coordinator Peter Jordan.

Mount Yuill (exploratory), June 20

To get on this "cheerful jaunt", we drove 8.8 km past Kokanee Park towards Balfour and turned left unto Beggs Rd. From there we drove to the Ross Lake trailhead. It's a 2-km hike to the lake. With Robin leading the way and with he and Ted each having a G.P.S. machine that they constantly took reckonings on - we were full of confidence that they would find the fastest and most accurate route to the top - before nightfall. Alas, when we got up high, we could see Yuill in the far distance. Undaunted, we proceeded on the mountain we were on (unnamed) and found it exceeded Yuill in elevation. We named it White Lady Mountain after the lake it towered over. So in the end - a happy ending.

On the hike were Bert Port, Ted Ibrahim, Don Harasym, Mary Woodward (the one who knew where to go and said, "I told you so"), Ray Neumar (this story teller) and our intrepid leader Robin Lidstone.

P.S. I believe there may be 2 G.P.S. for sale. Contact Ted or Robin.

Grassy Hut Trip, June 23

The purpose of this trip was to install the plaque on the stove in memory of Hamish Martin. The stove was purchased with the money from the Hamish Martin memorial fund. When you go to the hut you will see the small plaque on the back of the

stove. Hamish's spirit was filled with energy and I'm sure the stove will burn a bit brighter now.

The day started when my wife and I met Max Banks and Fiona Martin at the Bombi Summit at around 8:00 am. We drove to the landing below the Grassy Mountain ridge and started to hike from there. The hike took us about an hour. We had to make an unexpected detour half way up the trail because of a lazy bear in the way. It took him a little while to move on because the wind was blowing away from him and he probably couldn't tell what we were. We arrived at the hut and found there were many bugs waiting impatiently for us. The hut was in great shape and very clean. Someone who cares must have just left. We mounted the plaque and wrote in the record book about our trip and some memories about Hamish. The return trip would have gone smoothly if we had not seen the same bear in the same lazy state as the morning. This time it would not get out of the way and we had to make a detour. None of us wanted to approach the bear and run our hand over its shoulder to tell if it was a grizzly or not. We found an old skid road that we could take and safely go around the unassuming bear. We made it back to the truck without incident and drove back to the highway.

We all had a great day and it was good to finally see the plaque on the stove in memory of Hamish Martin. Those that attended were Max Banks, Fiona Martin, Rayanne McKay and coordinator Mark Hamilton.

Piton Peaks, 2640m 8660', June 24

The first trip of the season on the KMC's climbing trip list was a successful one as all five participants summited on Piton Peaks on Sun., June 24th. Piton Peaks are a series of limestone fingers located in the Badshots, 20 km. NE of Trout Lake city. On Sat., we hiked in from our cars on Gainer Crk. to a high camp at 6750' near the headwaters of Perry Lode Crk in 2 ½ hours. Getting a 4:50 am start on Sun., we passed between the two summits of Badshot Mtn., followed a ridge N. to our objective, and ascended a snow couloir and a steep, gravelly face to the first of the two highest points by 7:50. After a short break, we continued NW over equally easy class 4 terrain to the highest spire by 8:25 am. There, we found the summit record of the only other ascent, made by John Dudra and Howard Rode on July 2nd, 1951. We removed the record in order to send it to the archives of the Peter Whyte Museum in Banff. Expecting the weather to deteriorate, we returned to camp in good order by 11:30; packed up, and walked down the Badshot Mine road and the old Gainer Crk. road to our vehicles by 2:00 pm, just as it began to rain. By 5:30 pm, we were back in Nelson in plenty of time for Fred to mow his lawn; that is, if it hadn't been raining. On the trip: Paul Allen, Kim Kratky (coordinator), Robin Lidstone, Howie Ridge, Fred Thiessen.

Cottonwood Lake-Troup, July 6

Norman Thyer and myself met at 9 am at the Cottonwood lake turnoff. We waited until 9:15 am, but no one else showed up. It is a nice easy ride to Troup, the return trip all uphill but an easy grade. I would rate it as A2 rather than B2. Norman left to go through Fairview to town on the return ride and I sang and whistled my way back to the truck. Only saw a rabbit (no bears). Mary Woodward.

Mount Drinon, 2585 m, July 7

Up to this point, Drinon has become a bit of a life goal for me. I've made four previous unsuccessful attempts to get to the summit, although always with great weather. It's not a particularly difficult mountain to climb, it has just been bad route finding or bad luck, or over exuberance. This time we made it up, thanks in part to each of us bringing along the appropriate bag of talismans (ropes, harnesses, ice screws, crampons and the like).

Of all the stuff in our bags, we only used the crampons. Mostly, because when the meeting time is 5:30, and the trip starts early, the snow is still crunchy. The ascent route, described below, is the same as we tried in August a couple of years ago. It's also listed as the first ascent in Earle Whipple's book. From Drinon Lake, contour around the south shore of the lake and up the talus slope, being careful not to climb up too soon. Otherwise, you'll run into cliffs. There are two gullies on the south ridge. The upper one is hidden from view when you are at the lake, but it's the one you want to climb. It is important to do this route when there is snow in the gully, because some club members might remember that the mud, rock and ice alternative is quite heinous. The first gully dead ends at a cliff. Once up the uppermost gully, contour around the south side of the mountain, and up to the summit. We looked at going along the west ridge, but came up to a 10 m headwall. It has a nice crack that would make a good layback route, if you had forearms like Popeye. We put a summit register at the top, where there was a vestige of a cairn. Ron included a description of other known ascents.

There is another possible way up that seems easier, and to my knowledge (i.e., newsletters back to 1990) has not been documented. If one goes over the col between Drinon and the mound at the head of Drinon Lake, a walk around the east side of the mountain leads to a moderate angled snow gully between Drinon and Prestley. It should be obvious from the boulder field at the north end of Valhalla Lake. The top of that gully intersects the south ridge of Drinon, and it's a cake-walk to the summit from there. The views are spectacular because on one side is the home of the Norse gods, the other side is the Devil's Range. (Perhaps we should rename the peak Purgatory?)

On the trip were Kevin Forsythe, Trevor Houlden, Peter Jordan, Greg Kormany, Ron Perrier, Steve Pratt, Susan Tosh (who decided to go to Gwillim Lakes instead), and me David Mitchell.

Mount Martin, 9012', July 8

16 KMC hikers and a few Arrow Lakes Naturalists met at Roseberry for the drive to the Alps Alturas trailhead. The weather was wonderful and we were soon at the end of the trail and kicking steps up the west bowl of Mt Martin to join the SW ridge. It was an easy scramble up this ridge and the summit was reached by 11 of us about 4 hrs after leaving the vehicles. 4 participants who were less impressed by steep snow made their way to a notch in the ridge between Martin and Inverness. After enjoying lunch and the view the summit team started down the SE ridge. The knife edge was a little sharper than the leader remembered so it didn't take long for 7

hikers to abandon the SE ridge and return the original way. The 4 remaining SE ridgers made their way down to the SW bowl where they met up with the 4 notchers. As the hike had advertised a trip up Inverness, a brief discussion at this point discovered many reasons for saving it for another trip. We all met at the bottom of Martin and then enjoyed the scenic trail out. A great outing.

Participants: Rudy Goerzen, Jeff Isa, Vicki Hart, Mary Woodward, Ralf Waters, Ted Ibrahim, Eliane Miros, Steven Miros, Ron Perrier, Al Sheppard, Jill Watson, Pat Sheppard, Ross Scott, Craig Nichols, Susan Tosh and coordinator Bill Sones.

Mount Carlyle, 8680' 2648m July 11

To get to the trailhead for this hike, we drove through Sandon and to Cody where we crossed Carpenter Creek for the 4x4 road that follows the creek. About 20 minutes along this road we took a left fork (almost obscured by brush) that eventually led to a small parking area.

The trail is fairly well marked with red flagging and after a scramble alongside a creek it led to a mining trail and old mine site. A short sprint from there took us to a saddle, and once over and bearing left, we got our first glimpse of Carlyle about 15 minutes later.

This is a great scenic C-2 hike with creeks, meadows and surrounding mountains. Hiking in, the weather was warm and sunny. Hiking out, it was overcast and cooler. Perfect.

Susan Tosh, recovering from a broken leg, stopped halfway. There was some speculation a rogue bear might get her or that we might forget to collect her on the way back - taking a different route. Neither happened. No mishaps - so it was another glorious KMC hike in the wild.

The following were on the hike: Ted Ibrahim, Norman Thyer, Mary Woodward, Eliane Miros, Jan Micklethwaite, Caroline LaFace, Jenny Baillie, Suzanne Blewett, Kim Walker, Susan Tosh and coordinator Ray Neumar.

McKean Lakes/Woden Peak, 8914', July 15

Eleven Kootenay Mountaineers met on an overcast day for a hike up to the beautiful McKean Lakes and Woden Peak. The trailhead has flagtape marking the beginning of a jungle of a trail! For the first part it is quite moist, dewy and overgrown with stinging nettle, bracken ferns and a hercules of a plant (taller than me!) cow parsnips. The easy to follow trail leads directly up to McKean Lakes.

Two people stayed at the lakes exploring. The rest of the group hiked up to the ridge. Six of us hiked/scrambled up to the peak. Lunch, picture taking and admiring the views - Devils Range and the Mulvey group to the east, and then it was time to descend. Woden can be an interesting scramble especially towards the top.

We had a leisurely walk down amongst the wildflowers - blankets of heather, yellow and pink. At the lakes we regrouped and hiked down to the cars and civilization. Thanks to everyone that came out. A great day!! Participants: David Beringer, Andrew Martin, Al Sheppard, Pat Sheppard, Ross Scott, Zdena Price, Eliane Miros, Steve Miros, Ted Ibrahim, Susan Tosh and coordinator, Vicki Hart.

READING...

ADVENTURE IN SCRAMBLING

By Michael McCullough

(Condensed from the article "Scramble your way to B.C.'s beauty",
Vancouver Sun June 23rd 2001 page B-4.

This outdoor sport is an ideal way to see the province. Real climbers have the seven summits, the highest mountains on all seven continents to keep them motivated and striving higher. But several years ago, after a decade spent progressing from basic hiking to crampons and karabiners, I decided I wasn't a real climber. I would never climb Denali, or Mount Logan. I wasn't cut out for it. I am a scrambler, one notch above hiker, one below mountaineer. My natural instinct in the mountains is to find the easiest way up things, not the hardest. I don't really like pain, danger, expensive gear and endless training. I consider them sometimes necessary evils on the way to my real goal: EXPLORATION. Conveniently for me, there is no end of exploration to be had within a day's travel. A scrambler uses nothing more fancy than a good map, sturdy boots and maybe an ice axe. Scrambling does however demand good judgement and mountain smarts.

If you want solitude, and that stress-melting feeling of seeing the mountains as the explorers might have seen them, then you have to venture beyond the trail's end and pick your way along rubbly ridge tops or seek out secondary paths marked only by cairns in the meadows or tapes in the trees. Whether day tripping or backpacking, you have to use the trails not as ends in themselves but as access routes to the high country beyond. This is the realm of the scrambler.

Did you know?

DNA Indicates Wildflower Lineages

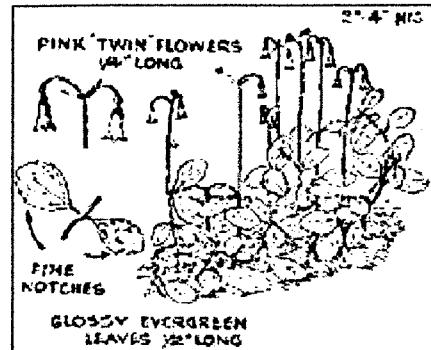
Submitted by Muriel Walton

Spectacular alpine wildflowers often clothe the meadows in the Kootenay mountains. Many a K.M.C. member has studied the plants and learned their genera and species and remarked on the brilliance of Swedish botanist and father of modern nomenclature Carl Linnaeus who arranged plants and animals into his system of classification. For more than 200 years the world has been satisfied with his system.

Suddenly, however, Linnaeus' system is old fashioned. We all know that our wild rose is a cousin to the leather leafed saxifrage. Or do we? I am told that the rose is now cousin to the fig. Yes, the fig! And how do we know that?

A team of 100 international scientists are reclassifying the relationships among the world's flowering plants. It is now

possible to discover the real relationships that link plant families based on the hard evidence of shared DNA. And where does that leave the Linnaeus's system, so familiar to K.M.C. flower enthusiasts? Linnaeus's system has recently been labeled "The soft concept of appearance". If you were planning to buy a new wildflower guidebook, maybe you should wait for one based on DNA testing.



Above is a line drawing of the *twin-flower*, (*Linnaea borealis*), named for Linnaeus, because of his two-part name for all plants.

Picture scanned from C.P.Lyons book titled "Trees, shrubs and flowers to know in British Columbia". Illustrations by the author.

CLASSIFIEDS

For sale: Hiking Boots

- Meindl Man's size 7, D width, made in Germany \$30.00
 - Vasque Lady's size 8, made in Italy, \$25.00
- (Both pairs have Vibram soles). Contact Anna Thyer at 352-5265

EDITOR'S NOTE...

This is a trial format. I would like to thank all of you who have helped me with the production of this newsletter in sending trip reports, letters of interest, pertinent submissions and for making sure I could easily format it on my computer.

Thanks to Wendy, Steven, Francois and Jean for their super help. It made the whole job a little easier!

Eliane

More TRIP REPORTS ...

Ymir Mountain, 2398 m, July 22

This trip was scheduled last month but didn't happen because of the weather. Today it was successful. Twelve of us climbed up through Ymir Bowl and once on the right ridge we quickly ascended to the summit. A bit early for lunch and we descended the back of the mountain to the saddle between Ymir and Half Dome. Vicki and I headed to Half Dome but the weather socked in and the rain came and soaked the others waiting for us in the saddle. We beat a hasty retreat and boulder hopped and slid through wet bush back to the parking lot. A good day in spite of the unsettled weather.

Participants: Jill Watson, Jenny Baillie, Vicki Hart, Pat Sheppard, Al Sheppard, Steven Miros, Eliane Miros, Francois Miros, Jean Miros, Ross Bates, Hazel Kirkwood.

Coordinator Mary Woodward

Paupo Mountain, 8018 ft., July 25

The Enterprise Road into Kokanee Glacier Park is in exceptional shape allowing even a sports car to negotiate the road with no problems. Ten Kootenay Mountaineers + one

non-member whom we met in the parking area hiked up the trail into Blue Grouse Basin. A leisurely 2 hours later we arrived in the basin and had another rest and snack. We absorbed the surrounding landscape and peaks, especially Virgil against a backdrop of beautiful cobalt skies. We meandered through twisted trees, streams and then up a steep slope of Indian paintbrush and tow-head baby to an old mining trail. From there it was a straightforward hike to Paupo. The usual scenario - lunch, picture taking and lots of laughs. Plus identifying the peaks and then getting the map out because we just have to be sure!!! A few of us wandered around on the peak which is the size of a grassy football field. We admired the views way down - Fennel lakes and the "I'll do it again in about 40 years" ridge Bob, Ted and Dave climbed only once to ascend Paupo!! The hike down was pleasant. Thank-you to everyone for joining me on this lovely outing.

Participants: Bob Dean, Gerda Lang, Mary Woodward, Eliane Miros, Francois Miros, Ted Ibrahim, Brad Steele, Kristyn McIntosh, Jenny Baillie + Matthew. Coordinator, Vicki Hart

KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar, BC V1N 3H5
KMC WEBSITE: www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

The KMC Newsletter is printed approximately ten times each year.

EDITOR: Wendy Hurst, RR2 S17, C15, Castlegar, V1N 3L4 E-mail Wendy_Hurst@telus.net

SUBMISSIONS: I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, drawings, etc. Trip reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the trip. Articles may be submitted on paper or by E-mail. When sending E-mail attachments, please "save as" MS Word if you are using other word processing software before sending.

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

MEMBERSHIP (including changes of address)

The annual KMC dues are:

Individual	\$20
Couple/Family	\$25
Junior	\$10

Send to: KMC Membership
c/o Joan Grodzki
RR#1, S13, C-19
Nelson, BC V1L5P4

THE KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEER

Kootenay Mountaineering Club

KMC EXECUTIVE

Chair	Paul Allen
Vice	Reid Henderson
Treasurer	Elaine Martin
Secretary	E.Miros/R.Bates
Climbing Trips	Kratky/Breakwell
Summer Trips	Don Harasym
Winter trips	Peter Jordan
Conservation	Kim Kratky
Hiking Camps	Laurie Charlton
Mtn School	Jenny Baillie
Newsletter	Wendy Hurst
Karabiner	Holly Ridenoour
Cabins & trails	Mark Hamilton
Social	J. Watson/ J.Micklethwaite

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✉ Library
Sue Port Tel. 365-6056
2713-10th ave., Castlegar, B.C.,
V1N 3A5

KMC WEBSITE
www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

UPCOMING HIKES...

Sept	12w	Silver Spray B-1 Sunrise Mt. C-3	Mary Woodward	825-4491
	15s	Alps Alturas B-2	Sara McEwen	352-5218
	16	Blue Grouse A-1/Mt Fennel Paupo C-2	Reid Henderson	352-2362
	19w	Vingolf C-3	Hans Peter Korn	367-9277
	22	TBA	Ross Bates	304-2534
	23	Reco Mt. Loop C-3	Christine Sutherland	226-7405
	26w	TBA	Steven Miros	365-5707
	30	Mt. Roberts B-2	Don Harasym	354-4578
Oct	03w	Mount Sentinel C-3	Steven Miros	365-5707
	06s	Grassy Mt. C-2	Pat Sheppard	365 6486
	07	Sapphire Lakes via Gibson C-2	Drew Desjardins	825 0072
	10w	Pot Hill - Siwash C-3	Steven Miros	365-5707
	13s	Kokanee Lake + B-1	Bess Schuurman	354-4275

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

Physical: A – easy B – fair C - average D strenuous E - very strenuous

Technical: 1. – hike 2. – scramble 3. – scramble perhaps with some exposure

4. – climb 5. – climb, continual belays

NOTE: The average trip is rated C-3.

UPCOMING BIKE TRIPS...

Sept	21	Kuskanux Trail, Nakusp C3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	27	Old Cascade Highway – Christina Lake C3	Anya Logodi	362-7247
Oct	5	Slocan Junction – Castlegar C1	Mary Woodward	825-4491
	12	Paulson Summit-Christina Lake With hike to Cascade Falls	Hans Korn	367-9277
	17	Six Mile – Lemon Creek (may be overnighter) C3	Carol Potasnyk	352-0780
	26	TBA Leader required		

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

Physical: A = easy (short day, little elevation gain) B – fair (longer day or moderate elevation gain) C – average (a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D – strenuous (long day, lots of elevation gain) E – very strenuous

Technical: 1 – suitable for all bikes 2 – hybrid or mountain bike recommended 3 – moderate mountain biking skills required 4 – advanced mountain biking abilities on steep or exposed trails , difficult route finding may be involved 5 – extreme mountain biking skills necessary

TRIP REPORTS

Galena Trail Hike, June 9

Nineteen compatriots headed out on the Galena Bay Trail from the New Denver Parking Lot at approximately 10:30 a.m., under broken clouds and temperature at 17..5° Celsius. The uphill grade, at an even 3%, is an ideal walk through the Carpenter Creek Valley, towards Three Forks and Sandon. The trail is well maintained, complete with information signs and two outhouses. The feature attraction is the Cable Car over Carpenter Creek.

Lunch was partaken at the civil hour of 12 noon at Three Forks. The return downhill trip, of equal distance and less time, was undertaken in a moderate drizzle. The walk ended at approximately 3:30 p.m., with a photo shoot.

Participants: E. Lehmann, Pompea & Armando Savarin, Al & Pat Sheppard, Katy Dmytryuk, Ruth Sawatzki, G. Lehmann, N. Casciano, S. Goosen, B. Schuurman, June & Don Harasym, Kathleen Hogan, Alison Katzko, Alex Dunkley, Teresa Waters, Donna Nelson

Coordinator, Chris Fairbank.

Wolf Peak, July 4th

Drive approximately 3 km east from the Salmo-Creston summit, pulling over onto a large chain up area on the north side of the highway. Drive a short distance up a logging road leaving from the west end of the pullover. Park just before the new gas pipeline. When we started at 7:30, it was already 21 degrees. Walk west along the gas line for about 40 minutes leaving it to enter the only clear-cut on the north side of the road. Angle NW through the clear-cut, aiming for the highest point which is almost in the centre. At a ribbon enter the trees heading for the saddle east of the summit. We were fortunate to follow a game trail and then an old prospectors' trail on the left side of a shallow gully. Close to the col, bushwhack west up the west slopes of Wolf Peak. Climb up a boulder field into the notch between the two "ears" of the top. We had lunch on the north ear looking down on Wolf (Waldie) Lake and the small lake SE of it. Howie was able to spot the Swedish Bikini Team sunbathing nude on the shores of the lake. With imagination, we could too. We left a register on this summit. We scrambled over to the south summit. With the aid of Howie's Garmin Etrex, we determined that they were the same height, 7182'. We then descended to the west and climbed the long ridge that curved to the SW. Its summit had no cairn and was 7256' high. At the end was a minor summit with cairns at an elevation of 7196'. We walked down the west side of the ridge south to the gas line which we followed back to the vehicles. It was an enjoyable, although very hot day. It was a pleasure listening to Howie's detailed descriptions of innumerable climbs.

Participants: Lois Aylen, Jan Micklithwaite, and Ron Perrier (reporter) Coordinator, Howie Ridge

Mount Kyawats, 2496m 8186', July 26

Janice Isaac and I explored this infrequently-climbed Kokanee Range peak on July 26th. Kyawats is located about 2 km. north of Mt. McQuarrie and overlooks the Keen Creek valley. After overnighting at the Silver Spray cabin, we followed the trail north to the col and Violet Mine (GR 930-193). Descending snow to the north, we then veered northwest to follow a long up-and-down rock ridge connecting to the south base of Kyawats; this took us through a picturesque moonscape of glacial debris and multi-hued lakes infrequently visited by humans. Near the base of the peak, Janice sprained her ankle and chose not to continue. I proceeded to the summit via the first couloir on the SE side, which led to a notch in the south ridge. Easy scrambling on good rock on the west face and south ridge took me to the cairned summit in 3 ½ hours from the hut. A rusty tin can without a record was found. I returned by an easier route, staying on the east side of the connecting ridge until south of the lake located at GR 930-199. A 5 ½ hour round trip from the hut, an outing to this tent-shaped minor-league peak will provide good views of Caribou Ridge, Caribou Pass, and the peaks on the west side of Keen Creek. Crampons not needed. Ice axe might be useful earlier in the season.

Kim Kratky

Little Slocan (Bike), Aug 3rd

We cycled along the east side of the Little Slocan River to the Forestry Camp Site at Little Slocan Lakes. This was a perfect place for lunch - absolutely beautiful. We cycled back the same way because the road on the west side of the river was in rough shape.

Participants: Linda Hill, Bess Schuurman and Jill Watson
Coordinator, Dave Adams

Slocan Chief Cabin/Sapphire Lakes, Aug 11th

There were ten in total on this trip. Seven of us met at Nelson Safeway at 7:00 pm and we picked up three more at the Kokanee Park turnoff. On this hot summer day, we were pleasantly surprised to find a chill in the air at the Gibson Lake parking lot. It was 8:30 am by the time we were laced up and ready to hit the trail. Although the trip listed as Slocan Chief Cabin, several people indicated an interest in including Sapphire Lakes in the day. So we gathered at Kokanee Lake for a break and to discuss the revised plan. It was decided that we would access the Lakes via the Enterprise Pass trail. Four people wanted to visit the Slocan Chief Cabin as well as go to Sapphire Lakes, so they left an hour ahead of us and arranged to meet again at the sign to the Enterprise Pass trail. Along the way three others decided they would be content to rest and enjoy the day at Kaslo lake and meet up with us at Kokanee lake, or along the trail down, later in the day. The trail to Sapphire Lakes is well defined and marked by cairns. The weather was glorious, with a brilliant clear blue sky and

plenty of enjoyable breezes to cool us off during the way. We arrived at the lakes at 1:45 pm., and enjoyed a leisurely hike along one of the shorelines. Instead of returning along the same route we followed the trail back up for about 100 metres and headed to our right until we found the cairns that led us down a rock gully and out at the north end of Garland Lake and back onto the trail down to Gibson lake. We met up with the other three members of the group towards the bottom of the trail. We were back down at the parking lot at 5:30 pm where Anna presented us all with sweet, tasty slices of fresh watermelon! A enjoyable, full day was had by all.

Participants: Julie Pelletier, Brad Steele, Monica and Franz Miltenburg, Anna Thyer, Megan Moorcroft, Laurie Charlton, Barbara Penney, Susan Tosh

Coordinator, Kathy Hendren

Mount Dolly Varden, August 22nd

Only 3 of the 5 members who said they were coming showed up. The light rain may have had something to do with that. To get to the trailhead, we drove up the Wilson Creek Rd. (from Roseberry) for 3 km before turning right. Most points of doubt were then marked with a signpost to Alps Alturas trail. However, about 22 km from the highway, a Y in the road was not marked; you keep left here. After 27.1 km, we turned left off the main road and drove 1.5 km to the trailhead. This 1.5 km is the only part of the road needing a high clearance vehicle. We set off with light rain but with little wind and fairly high clouds. As we reached higher places on the trail, the wind increased and the clouds lowered. We decided to just walk to the end of the trail above the lake (which was still partly frozen), and even though it was only about 230 m up to Dolly Varden, clambering over wet rocks in light rain, into thick clouds did not appeal to any of us. We decide to return to the car, drive to the Wilson Creek Falls trail and view the falls, which 2 of us had not seen before. The trail was dry and there was still plenty of water coming over the falls - well worth seeing and only about 45 min. hike for the return trip.

Participants: Mary Woodward, Ray Neumar
Coordinator, Ted Ibrahim

Rugged Peak, Sept 2

Three of us met at the junction of Highway 6 and Bonanza Rd to tackle Rugged and Big Sister Peaks. Doubtful weather and a change of date kept other potential hikers away. We drove up a rough but thankfully short approach road past the Valhalla Mountain Touring lodge to park at 6500'. There isn't a trail but following a steep avalanche chute straight up took us to the base of Rugged Peak just as a storm arrived. We found a very small overhang which provided great views of the storm as well as shelter. When the rain quit we scrambled to the top of Rugged (just over 8000') and then made our way down 500' to the col between Rugged and Big Sister. At this point we could see

another storm approaching fast and decided not to ascend Big Sister (8093'). It started to rain part way down which made the bush-whacking just that much more enjoyable.

Participants: Suzanne Blewett, Ken Fisher
Coordinator, Bill Sones

Holway and Moloch Groups

KMC members Paul Allen, Gilles Bellerose, Kim Kratky, and Hamish Mutch spent a week in these remote ranges of the Northern Selkirks, July 14-21 as part of camp 1 of the Jones and Seagram Flying Circus. Other camp participants were David Jones, Joie Seagram, and Bruce Fairley. Flying from CMH Adamants at about km. 37 on the Goldstream River road, we heliocoptered south to set up a base camp on the south edge of the unnamed glacier south of Mt. Martha. Kim, Paul, and Gilles flew to a high camp at the pass east of Downie Lake and then walked back to base camp.

Despite truly uncooperative weather (rain almost every day and a foot of fresh snow), club members managed to summit the following:

Unnamed 2690 m. (8820') E. of Mt. Sissons (gr 336-910) Paul, Gilles, Kim. Mt. Baal 2997 m. (9822') Paul, Gilles, Kim. Mt. Sissons 2946 m. (9663') Paul, Gilles, Kim, Hamish. Mt. Martha 2790 m. (9150') Kim, Hamish.

Other noteworthy events included intriguing views of Sir Donald, high camp being due west of Rogers Pass; a near-visit to camp by an aggressive grizzly; and as many as three fruitless attempts on Mt. Holway, highest peak in the area at just under 3050 m. (10,000').

Mt Rinda 8199' (2499m) Sept 5th

Three of us went on this club trip. Not far from the point on the Hodder Creek road where we intended starting the hike we saw a side road up Gasga Creek which looked promising so we took it. It led us somewhat astray! and we finished up taking 5 3/4 hours through STEEP bush to reach the top of Rinda. We came down the 'proper' way and it only took 4 3/4 hours - through bush, bush, bush and over cliffs, cliffs, cliffs and etc, etc, etc. All three of us intend repeating the adventure - in our next life time!

As far as I am personally concerned I realize that I am too old for this game but I'm not old enough to know it!

Participants, Vicki Hart, Ted Ibrahim,
Coordinator, Bob Dean.

Powder Creek, Sept 8th

Five hikers said that they wanted to go on this hike. One called me on the morning before I left saying she was not going. Three of us arrived for the 7:40 am ferry but the fourth, who was supposed to meet us there and had the needed 4 x 4 did not show. We went in my car up the east shore of Kootenay Lake

to the Powder Creek Road. I then tried to drive my car up the Powder Creek Road but was unable to get over the deep water bars and up the steep loose surface. We decided to walk up the road. We walked to the end of the road, about 13 km one way and 832 m (2730 ft) elevation gain. The weather was excellent and we had an enjoyable walk along the valley, but we did not have time to walk on the trail to the lodge.

Participants: Don Harasym, Mary Woodward
Coordinator, Ted Ibrahim.

CLIMBING CAMP 2001—THE ADAMANTS

This year's camp was held July 28-Aug. 4 in one of Canada's premier mountaineering areas. Although the club hosted Adamants' camps in 1972, 1978, and 1988, this marked our first time at Fairy Meadows since the 1978 camp. After flying from the Swan Creek trailhead some 64 km. north of the Trans-Canada Highway, we pitched our tents in a meadow five minutes' walk above the Fairy Meadows ACC hut. Because of last-minute cancellations, our party was reduced to four: Kim Kratky, Stan Metcalfe, Hamish Mutch, and Peter Tchir. Unsettled weather prevented us from even attempting Adamant and Austerity, but we did scale the following:

Sentinel Pk. 9,814' (Kim, Stan, Hamish, Peter)
Pioneer Pk. 10,644' (Kim, Stan, Peter—he did it twice, once solo)

Outpost Pk. 8,758' (Kim, Stan, Hamish, Peter),
Mt. Colossal 9,479' (Kim, Stan, Hamish, Peter),
Mt. Fria 9,561' (Kim, Stan)

East Peak of the Gothics 10,595' (Stan, Hamish)

Having left their ice axes farther down the west ridge, Kim and Stan were turned back by steep snow 60' below the summit of Mt. Wotan. In sum, we made the best of generally uncooperative weather and also enjoyed spending time with climbers from the ACC's Toronto Section, who were staying at the hut. Stan and Kim especially enjoyed the sauna.

Kim Kratky

VOLUNTEERS ???

QUA LAKE SKI TOURING YURT

During this summer Kootenay Experience received their tenure for the Qua Peaks region south of Nelson above Clearwater Creek.

If you would like to be part of the volunteer construction crew please call Trevor at 354-4441 or trevor@kootenayexperience.com.

Volunteers receive \$50 credit per day for a stay at the Ymir Yurts. All food is provided and a Ymir Yurts T-shirt is yours with our thanks. We had a great time last fall installing our first Yurt camp. Construction dates are dependant on weather but we are shooting for the period September 20-October 10th. Access may be with helicopter assistance or 1.5 hour

hike. Beautiful ridges and scrambles are within easy distance. A crew will be making the 3 hour ridge walk over to Seeman Yurt to build a sauna as well.

Limited number of participants. I look forward to sharing this working holiday with you. More information at: www.kootenayexperience.com/yurts/construction.html

Trevor Holsworth, Ymir Yurts & Kooenay Experience

LETTERS...

More on GPS

Referring to the Mt. Yuill trip of June 20, I wonder whether Ted and Robin had set their GPS receivers to the same datum as the map they were using. If not, that could account for a discrepancy of hundreds of metres.

Norman Thyer

Summit Registers

Although this is open to discussion, we are presently putting registers on mountains within the following boundaries: Arrow Lakes on the west, The Columbia and Kootenay Rivers on the south, the Purcells and the Goat Range. I have also put registers at the two most recent hiking camps. The climbing camps should do the same. Mountains with trails and the Bonnington Range are excluded. As of August 9, to the best of my knowledge, there are presently registers on the following mountains: Woden, Gregario, Lucifer, Asgard, Midgard, Gimli, Dag, Drinon, Vingolf, Frog (Wilton), Grays, Cond, Pontiac, McQuarrie, Aylwin, Carlyle, Brennan, Whitewater, Marten, Dolly Varden, Wolf, Eyebrow, and Siwash. Please leave them where they are visible. Some registers have been hard to find in the cairn. I plan on making 50 more soon. It appears that animals are chewing the orange ends. The next batch will have better ends and will be shorter. Any suggestions are welcome.

Ron Perrier 365-7255

KMC BUSINESS...

KMC General Meeting, Tuesday, Sept 11th

The meeting was called to authorize spending above the discretionary limit allowed to the executive.

The following motion was passed unanimously:

"That the executive be authorized to spend \$2,500 for purchasing Club T-shirts for retailing to members"

Library. Sue Port pointed out that in view of the many trips away from the area undertaken by the Ports, the Club library housed at the Port house is often not accessible. Although she enjoys having the collection there, she feels it would be better to house it elsewhere. If you have a few feet of shelving for books and journals and would be willing to house the Library, please phone Sue at 365-6056.

KMC Executive Meeting, Tuesday, Sept 11th

Hiking Camp. If you haven't already sent receipts for food purchases to Laurie for refunds, please do so a.s.a.p. Part of a surplus from this year's hiking camp will be used to provide Club T-shirts for Hiking Camp participants. The remainder will go into the Hiking Camp equipment fund.

Climbing Camp. Despite poor weather, four people enjoyed a week of climbing.. see report page 3.

Karabiner. This is a final call for photos of Club activities for inclusion in the Karabiner. Please send photos or digital copies to Holly Ridenour at: RR2 S14 C3, Nelson, B.C. V1L 5P5 or ridenour@netidea.com

Mountaineering School. Seven people participated in the Club sponsored Mountaineering school instructed by Laura Adams.

Cabins and Trails. A new trail to Whitewater Mountain via Whitewater Creek, avoiding private land, was built this summer by a group of young people working with the Ministry of Forests. The trail was due to open on September 1st. Information on trailhead access will be provided as soon as available. The Nelson and Trail Society which has been active in promoting acquisition of the old Burlington Northern line from Nelson to Salmo, is pleased to announce that the purchase of the line by the B.C. Government has been finalized.

An assessment of the Bonnington Huts, indicates the most pressing need is for the provision of outhouses at three of the four huts. This will be the focus of the next work party.

Conservation. There has been little progress over the summer on the Ice Creek Lodge proposal (west boundary of the Valhallas). In relation to the Snowwater project, the company has signed an agreement with a private company (Darkwoods) for use of their land, some of which is east of the Nelson-Salmo highway. This corridor will also be the main route for helicopter access to the Lodge and touring terrain, rather than the Kootenay Valley. One Yurt site has been completed.

Ron Perrier has made up more summit register containers and the Club will reimburse him for the cost of the materials.

The following executive positions must be filled at the A.G.M. on November 16th. Pleased consider volunteering!!

President
Vice-President
Hiking Camp Director
Climbing Camp Director
Mountaineering School Director
Winter Trips Director
Newsletter Editor

HIKING AND (CLIMBING CAMPS) SLIDE SHOW

All participants of this year's camps and other voyeurs are invited to attend a social to re-live highlights of this summer's challenges and triumphs at Fitch Creek hiking camp or the Adamants' Climbing Camp. We may even import a few horseflies and a sudden shower to make everyone feel at home. If you are bringing slides, please have them ready in a carousel. Photo albums and double prints to trade or give away are always popular as well. Coffee, tea and treats provided

Date: Friday, Oct. 19

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Robson Hall

Kootenay Mountaineering Club Box 3195, Castlegar, B.C. V1N 3H5

Annual dues:	Individual	\$20
	Couple/Family	\$25
	Junior	\$10

Please send to:

KMC Membership
RR#1 S-13 C19
Nelson, B.C.
V1L 5P4

Newsletter submissions.

I encourage all submissions of writing, cartoons, maps, drawings etc. Trip reports should be submitted as soon as possible after the trip. Articles may be submitted as hard copy or by E-mail. Please convert E-mail attachments to MSWORD or text before sending.

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

Send to:

Wendy Hurst
1696 Thrums Road,
Castlegar ,B.C.
V1N 4N4

E-mail , Wendy_Hurst@telus.net

THE KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEER

Kootenay Mountaineering Club

KMC EXECUTIVE (Until Nov 16th)

Chair	Paul Allen
Vice	Reid Henderson
Treasurer	Elaine Martin
Secretary	E.Miros/R.Bates
Climbing Trips	Kratky/Breakwell
Summer Trips	Don Harasym
Winter trips	Peter Jordan
Conservation	Kim Kratky
Hiking Camps	Laurie Charlton
Mtn School	Jenny Baillie
Newsletter	Wendy Hurst
Karabiner	Holly Ridenour
Cabins & trails	Mark Hamilton
Social	J. Watson/ J.Micklethwaite

CONTACTS

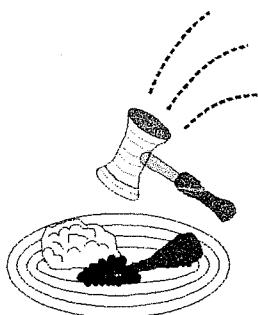
❖ Membership ❖
 Joan Grodzki
 RR#1 S-13 C-19
 Neson, B.C., V1L 5P4

❖ Newsletter submissions ❖

Eliane Miros,
 Box 365
 Robson, B.C.
 V0G 1X0
 E-mail , esmiros@netidea.com
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❖ Library ❖
 Sue Port Tel. 365-6056
 2713-10th ave., Castlegar, B.C.,
 V1N 3A5

KMC WEBSITE
www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca



Annual General Meeting And Fall Dinner

Friday, Nov 16th, Sandman Inn, Castlegar
 6p.m. for socializing, dinner at 6.30p.m.
 The cost of the dinner will be \$18 per person,
 including tax and tip.

Meeting starts at 7.45p.m.

Let the following people know by Monday, November 12th if you will be requiring dinner:

Castlegar area	Wendy Hurst	399 4157
Nelson area	Reid Henderson	352 2362
Rosslan/Trail area	Jan Micklethwaite	362 5289

UPCOMING HIKES...

Oct	21	Evans Creek B-1	Andrew Martin	365-7592
	28	Poupore to Sunningdale B -1	John and Muriel Walton	365-6519
Nov	04	Athabasca Mine A-1	Reid Henderson	352-2362
	11	Blueberry Overlook A-1	Ross Bates	304-2534
	18	TBA		VOLUNTEER NEEDED
	25	TBA		VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Classification of Trips (Approximate)

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



TRIP REPORTS . . .

CLUB TRIPS

Alps Alturas, September 12th

Recipe for a successful KMC trip

1. Hike in glorious fall weather.
2. Go to a beautiful, remote, alpine basin surrounded by peaks to scramble.
3. Ensure that it's the first experience of the trail for everyone except the leader!

The access and trail description for Alps Alturas is excellent in "Don't Waste Your Time in the West Kootenay". If you use the John Carter book, keep going when his trail description ends. The route is obviously becoming more popular and is now well defined to a lookout above the lake between Mt Dolly Varden and Marten Mt. Ten of us (including two visitors from Vancouver) hiked this excellent trail. Bob, Gudren and Gerda left after an hour to scramble up Dolly Varden but were unsuccessful. The rest carried on to the trail's end at a lovely overlook. After lunch, Anna, Maxine, Diane and Sara scrambled down and over to a knoll on the other side to look down the Keen Valley.

This is an easy 2 hour hike up and well worth doing despite the long time to access the trailhead - 2.5 hours from Nelson.

Participants: Diane Paoline, Gudrun Rieter, Bob Dean, Maxine Werner, Norman Thyer, Anna Thyer, Gerda Lang, Ric Testa, Gayle Nelson.

Coordinator, Sara McEwan

Blue Grouse Basin/Mt. Fennel/Mt. Virgil September 16th

Under beautifully sunny skies, sixteen hikers assembled at the trail head, departing at 9:20 a.m. Upon arriving in the basin between 11:00 and 11:30 a.m. and after a rest, the group split into three sections. Bob Dean, John Bargh, Chris Fairbank, Julie Peltier and Zdena Price decided to climb Mt. Virgil. Jill Watson, Caroline LaFace, Jan Mickelthwaite, Eliane Miro, Steven Miro, Elaine Martin, Mary Prothro and Don Harasym proceeded to Mt. Fennel. Willy Brink, Carole Page and Stacey Goosen decided to enjoy the sun in the basin before heading back to the vehicles. Two of the Mt Virgil contingent reached the summit. After a leisurely lunch and visit at the top, the Fennel group chose a shorter return route through a ravine arriving about 3:00 PM on the trail at a point shortly before the basin opens up. Noisy thunder and a few rain drops motivated the group to continue hiking back to the vehicles arriving around 4:00 PM. At the same time, the Virgil group assembled in the basin to wait for the Fennel party not knowing that it had bypassed them and were already heading down. After waiting for quite some time and leaving a note

for the Fennel group, the Virgil group resolved to return to the vehicles arriving about 5:40 PM. The lesson learned with this experience is to ensure adequate communications so as to minimize confusion, especially if a group splits. Although finishing the hike much later than anticipated, all had a great hiking day.

Participants: see account above

Coordinator: Don Harasym

Airy Mountain, ~8400' September 22nd

Leaving Playmor junction under perfect blue skies, we headed north up Hwy 6 and turned left onto Upper Passmore Road. After crossing the Slocan River bridge, we followed the road to the end of the pavement. A few kilometers up the main forest service road we came to the first prominent fork and headed left straight uphill on a branch marked by a sign for Fall Creek Camp. Keeping right at each of the next two junctions brought us to the bottom of the Airy Creek road which is also signed. At this point the road crosses Airy Creek and climbs up the north side for a little more than 5km to the first switchback. Just above this point we took the left fork and continued up Airy Creek for another kilometer or so, parking at a level spot near the 4770 foot level just before a bridge over the creek. Travel time from Playmor to this point was about one hour. High clearance vehicles are needed since the Airy Creek road has been deactivated and there are about 60 water bars to cross. Vehicle travel is possible for a few additional kilometers, but the terrain is fairly level and it only takes 25 minutes to hike to the point where the road is impassable. Walking is preferable to bouncing over another series of water bars, since there are good views of Airy Mt. and Mt. Wilton (Frog Pk.) to be had.

Seven of us set off hiking at about 8:45am, following the road up to another bridge across the tributary that flows into Airy from the south. At this point we took the branch to the right which eventually re-crosses Airy Creek where the bridge is washed out. Nearing the end of the road, one is tempted to follow the terrain toward the peak itself and bushwhack up the cliff. Indeed, this is the most direct route for those in a hurry. However, we took a more enjoyable path, leaving the road shortly before the end and heading uphill to the right, aiming for the obvious notch in the top of the clear-cut. A nice trail begins just behind a dead tree that is snapped off, at the top of the clear-cut, on the high ground to the right of the notch. (If you come to a creek while still in the clear-cut, you are too far left, but can follow the creek upstream until you cross the trail higher up in the forest.) The trail rapidly took us up through the forest along the creek, flattening out as it crossed an interesting boulder field. At this point one comes to a cabin in a meadow just below tree line. Total travel time from the vehicles was an easy hour and a half.

After a break to investigate the cabin, we had a short easy climb west through open bush to the treeless ridge above the cabin. One follows this ridge back to the south, climbing toward the peak. Take care not to get too high since Airy itself cannot be seen from this angle, as it is behind a false summit which is bypassed on the left. Gaining the ridge top rewarded us with views north to the Valhallas, as well as a

small lake in the next drainage. One drops only a small bit of elevation to do the bypass and gain the main ramp up to the summit itself. The ridge is fairly rocky but an easy walk, with just a bit of scrambling to get onto the ramp itself. Although this was a longer route than heading straight up from the end of the road, we had almost no bushwhacking and still managed to have lunch on the summit by 12:30.

We enjoyed the views while seated around the huge six-foot high summit cairn, spending a leisurely 90 minutes or so picking out the various peaks and trading stories of past trips. The temperature was a balmy 17 degrees with sunshine and little wind. Ron wrote our names on the first page of the new summit register that he had brought along. After lunch we headed back down a more direct route straight from the summit towards the road in the clear-cut. On the way we caught a glimpse of the sun shining off the white fur of two mountain goats high up on the next ridge. As we descended the goats cooperated by also climbing down until we could see them in the distance without binoculars. Nearing the bottom of the valley brought us close to the top of the cliffs again, so we followed Mary and veered to our left down a series of benches to the valley floor.

At this point we had a very content group, so a suggestion was made that instead of bushwhacking back up to the road we instead cross to the other side of the valley. A very inviting looking meadow would take us to a short band of trees which connected with an open clear-cut that had roads which would take us back to the bridge washout. The inviting meadow turned out to be an awkward boulder field hidden under long grass, and the short band of trees turned out to be thick with alder, blueberry and rhododendron bush. The route did have its rewards, with a lovely deep clear pool suitable for swimming, copious quantities of ripe blueberries and huckleberries, and a nice meandering creek flowing through a grassy marsh. I actually enjoyed the thick bush, but many in the group were threatening mutiny while in the midst of this jungle. All was forgiven once we made it to the clear-cut and easy road travel again. Travel time was considerably longer with this route, but mostly because people were stuffing their mouths with berries at every opportunity, as evidenced by the purple stained hands. A quick walk down the last bit of road had us back to the vehicles by 5:00pm. A good time was had by all.

Participants: Gudrun Rieter, Mary Woodward, Ross Scott, Ron Perrier, Hanspeter Korn, Irme Mende

Coordinator: Ross Bates

Old Glory, September 30th

A hike originally set for Mt. Roberts was reassigned to Old Glory. The Fall weather was fantastic with plenty of sun and warm temperatures. Thirteen departed from the parking area at 9:23 AM. About half way up to Unnecessary Ridge, we met KMC member Ross Scott with a group of

friends and, arriving at Unnecessary Ridge, we caught up with Eric Ackerman. Between about 12 Noon and 2:30 PM, members of the group reached the summit, some climbing the face and others taking the trail. One more KMC member, Ross Bates met us at the top for a grand total of sixteen. After a leisurely lunch, we left the top at 1:43 PM. Eric Ackerman, Ross Scott and Vicki Hart separated from the group on the Old Glory side of Unnecessary Ridge deciding to take Plewman Ridge and a flagged trail beyond leading to the Nancy Green Summit. The rest of us made our way down arriving at the vehicles between 4:00 and 4:15 PM. The good turnout was attributed to the fine weather but also to the somewhat later start than usual.

Participants: Jan Micklethwaite, Vicki Hart, Suzanne MacLean, Joan Grodzke, Drew Desjardins, Mary Woodward, Diane Cushing, Marilyn Gauthier, Hanspeter Korn, Laurie Haight, Gerda Lang, Bob Dean, Ross Bates, Ross Scott, Eric Ackerman.

Coordinator: Don Harasym

GRASSY MOUNTAIN, OCT 6th

Six people hiked into the Grassy Mountain Hut. At the cabin, we made a special point of locating the Hamish Martin Memorial Plaque on the back of the new cabin stove. After a brief rest at the cabin we hiked back up the hillside to the ridge, which we followed to the Grassy Mountain summit. We had a good view of Grady Lake, Pot Hill and Siwash Mountain. On our descent from Grassy we were reminded that winter was not far off when a few white flakes drifted our way. All hikers returned safely to their vehicles. Thanks to Ross Bates for leading the group up the ridge to the top of Grassy Mountain and thanks to everyone who participated in the hike. It was a great day.

Participants: Pat and Alan Sheppard, Ross Bates, Peter Kangan, Elaine Martin, Vera Truant.

Coordinator, Pat Sheppard

Silver Spray/Mt McQuarrie, 2688m, October 3rd

This trip had been rescheduled from two previous attempts but the delay worked in our favour and put us into prime time fall colors. Clear blue skies, peaks, glaciers and golden larches made for a memorable day. The crisp air gave it that "just before snow comes" feeling. The trail was in great shape and the cabin its usual inviting self. Four people chose to explore around the cabin and bask in the glorious fall day while the others continued on to Mt McQuarrie. The views were grand. I'm sure that the huge cairn on top has put this mountain over 2700m. It should be noted that there is now a register on Sunrise Peak, compliments of Bert Port.

Our return was a comfortable long downhill walk during which several of us wondered whether there is a way of getting rid of that "toes get scrunched into the front of the shoes" experience.

Participants: Drew Desjardins, Joan Grodzki, Hazel Kirkwood, Anne Kwan, Mary Woodward, Eliane Miros

Coordinator Steve Miros

OTHER TRIPS SUBMITTED BY CLUB MEMBERS

Hilda Peak, 2640m Various dates.

Access. Drive approximately 34km up the Burton Creek road (the last 10km of road is deactivated). A trail starts a few yards past the bridge across Burton Creek (also shown as Trout Creek on the top map). Hike for about one hour to the first small lake. The Trail stays on the south (left) side of the Creek and then ascends a head wall. A further half hour of hiking brings you to a second lake. Proceed along the North (right) side of the lake and ascend on the right side of a small creek to a pleasant alpine bowl. Bear left to reach the snowfield and ridge (northeast face). From here there are various options which we explored on different dates.

June 17th

From the top of the snowfield we gained the ridge on the north-north east end and did a short scramble to the top. There was a snow cornice on the ridge.

We were: Bill Sones, Peter Raulston, Rudy Goerzen.

July 22nd

We took the snow chute at the top of the snowfield

approximately in the centre of the ridge. It was a short scramble to the cairn where we placed a summit register. We were: Patrick McMeachen, Marny Graf, Rudy Goerzen.

September 8th

We approached the ridge to the left (south east) of the snowfield. The snowfield was frozen hard. This was also a short scramble. Good weather made for a pleasant day. We were: David Cunningham, Rudy Goerzen.

Submitted by Rudy Goerzen.

Whitewater Creek New Trail, Sept 15th

Three of us arrived at the trailhead at 9:30 a.m. It was a beautiful sunny day. We made it to the end of the trail, just below the summit of Whitewater Mountain, where it seemed to peter out. We followed the old water flume for some distance (not to its end), then turned left and scrambled up and down some small slopes, catching views of little ponds. We didn't see any animals, although we were hoping to see a white grizzly. The rock formations in the area are beautiful. We were P'nina, Peter and Michael (13).

Submitted by P'nina Shames

Advertisement

Antarctica in the Footsteps of the Explorers

12-Day Hiking and Climbing Voyage

February/March 2002



Enjoy an exploration voyage into the very heart of the Last Continent, Antarctica!

In late February, 2002, Fathom Expeditions will be sailing the 40-passenger, ice-rated expedition ship, Akademik Shuleykin, deep into the heart of the Antarctic Peninsula region. The expedition will spend 12 days hiking and climbing the various peaks that form the spine of this tremendous snow-covered wilderness area. Lying well below the Antarctic Convergence, the mountains of the Peninsula hold sea to sky glaciers, virgin peaks, and aesthetic lines. It is the ultimate climbers playground, as the skiable and climbable terrain is seemingly endless. There are no approach hikes in this region, access is done using our fleet of Zodiac boats that drop us on the glaciers at the base of each climb.

Activities will include a wide variety of programs catering to the adventurous traveller as well as the novice and advanced mountaineer. Programs include mountaineering, hiking, ice-climbing and photography activities. The trip will feature an overnight on the "Ice" to attempt a climb on Shackleton Peak. In addition, all participants will be able to enjoy the periphery programs of Zodiac cruising with Humpback and Minke whales, landings at valleys filled with over 200,000 penguins, visits to international scientific research stations, and exploration cruises around grounded 6-storey icebergs.

The expedition team will include experienced Antarctic guides such as David German, who led the two IMAX film teams across the Antarctic in 1999/2000, and Kris Erickson who is a veteran of over a dozen Peninsula climbs.

Prices for the ship portion of the expedition start at US \$5900.00. Transportation to Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina can be arranged through Fathom Expeditions' travel partners.

Please call for more information on this brilliant and unforgettable climbing opportunity.

Fathom Expeditions Inc. – 1 800-621-0176 – www.fathomexpeditions.com

explore@fath...

Tooth Ridge

Tooth Ridge is a spiny east-west ridge above Johnsons Landing that is located south of Mt. Willet and north of Kootenay Joe Ridge. Although its highest point is only 2371 m. (7779'), it does look quite dramatic from Highway 31 on the west side of Kootenay Lake. As the access is easy, this makes a reasonable day trip, even in the autumn. Here are details of an east-west traverse of all the high points of the ridge that I made with Fred Thiessen on Sept. 9th. Turn off Hwy 31 onto the Duncan Lake FSR and take the roads for Argenta and then Johnsons Landing. About 11 km. from #31, turn left onto Salisbury FSR and follow it 7 km. to its end in a landing at 5570' (2WD all the way). Leaving the vehicle, follow a plot-line trail north without ascending. In about 20 min., reach trail's end amid fallen timber. From here, diagonal up and to the north, and in about 20 min. you will reach a trail taking you north and east into the headwaters of the south fork of Bulmer Creek. The trail disappears in the alpine basin north of Tooth Ridge, but it's easy to reach the col NE of the objective (2 hrs. 20 min. from the car, 7300'; GR 115-528). Here, you will find a trail and cairned route leading north to Mt. Willet. We headed SW to gain Tooth Ridge, traversing some five named points, the highest being Second Molar (2371 m.) and the most interesting Canine Tooth which demanded careful downclimbing on the latticed limestone of its SW face. We continued down the partly-open fan of the ridge's west face to regain our trail and returned to the truck in 70 min. from our last high point. In sum, our 6 1/2 hour outing provided enjoyable scrambling (class 3-4) with exceptional vistas of Kootenay Lake, the Purcells, and the Goat Range. The rope was not used, but we advise parties to carry one. Map is Lardeau 82K/2 1:50 000 scale. See the 1971 Canadian Alpine Journal for data on first ascents by Curt Wagner and party.

Submitted by Kim Kratky

MT. NIORD AND UNNAMED 2640 M.

On Sunday, September 23rd, Fred Thiessen, Paul Allen, and I paid a visit to this fairly remote area in the northern Valhallas. Mt. Niord is located between two terminal forks of Wee Sandy Creek and just northwest of Wee Sandy Lake. We accessed this area by driving up the Shannon Creek FSR and down the other side into the Arrow Lakes drainage. Following the main haul road, and by now in the Caribou Creek headwaters, we turned left onto Branch 25 (not surprisingly, 25 km. from the start of Shannon FSR) and changed to 4WD. Branch 25 ends in 3.1 km. at a landing in a sub-alpine valley northwest of Mt. Niord.

Leaving the truck at 8:25, we hiked south and southeast on an intermittent bear trail through the grassy valley and eventually gained the col (GR 585-388; 7850') north of Mt. Niord. Here, we stashed our rack and rope, and proceeded along the north ridge (rotten class 3) to the summit of Niord (2688 m., 8819') by 11:45. After putting a KMC summit record tube in the existing cairn, we enjoyed the flawless weather and fine views of the box-shaped Wee Sandy Lake,

looking pretty shallow at this time of year. Earle Whipple's manuscript on the Valhallas says of Niord only that a backpacking party led by Maurice de St. Jorrie traversed it some years ago via the south ridge and east slopes. It must have first been climbed decades ago. After a 30 minute break, we descended easily to the northern col.

From this spot, we dashed up u/n 2640 m. (8660', GR 585-395, located 1 km. N. of Niord) in 30 minutes, traveling over easy heather, dirt, and some granite. Here, we built a cairn and added our last KMC summit tube. We then retraced our steps to the truck, arriving by 4:00 pm for a 7.5 hr. outing. Blessed by the balmy weather, we also found it a wondrous day for animal sightings: two sets of goat with kid and a female moose.

Kim Kratky

KMC BUSINESS...

Executive Meeting, October 9th

Steve and Eliane Miros have volunteered to house the KMC Library at their house in Robson. Members will be notified about access to the Library when the move is complete.

Many thanks to the Ports for housing the Library for all these years and especially to Sue for her work in acquiring and cataloguing books and journals.

Laurie requests that any outstanding receipts from hiking camps be send in a.s.a.p. and that refund cheques already issued be cashed!!!!

The new Club Tshirts, designed by Jenny Baillie, should be available at the A.G.M.

Kootenay Mountaineering Club

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

Annual dues:	Individual	\$20
	Couple/Family	\$25
	Junior	\$10

Please send to:

KMC Membership
RR#1 S-13 C19
Nelson, B.C.
V1L 5P4

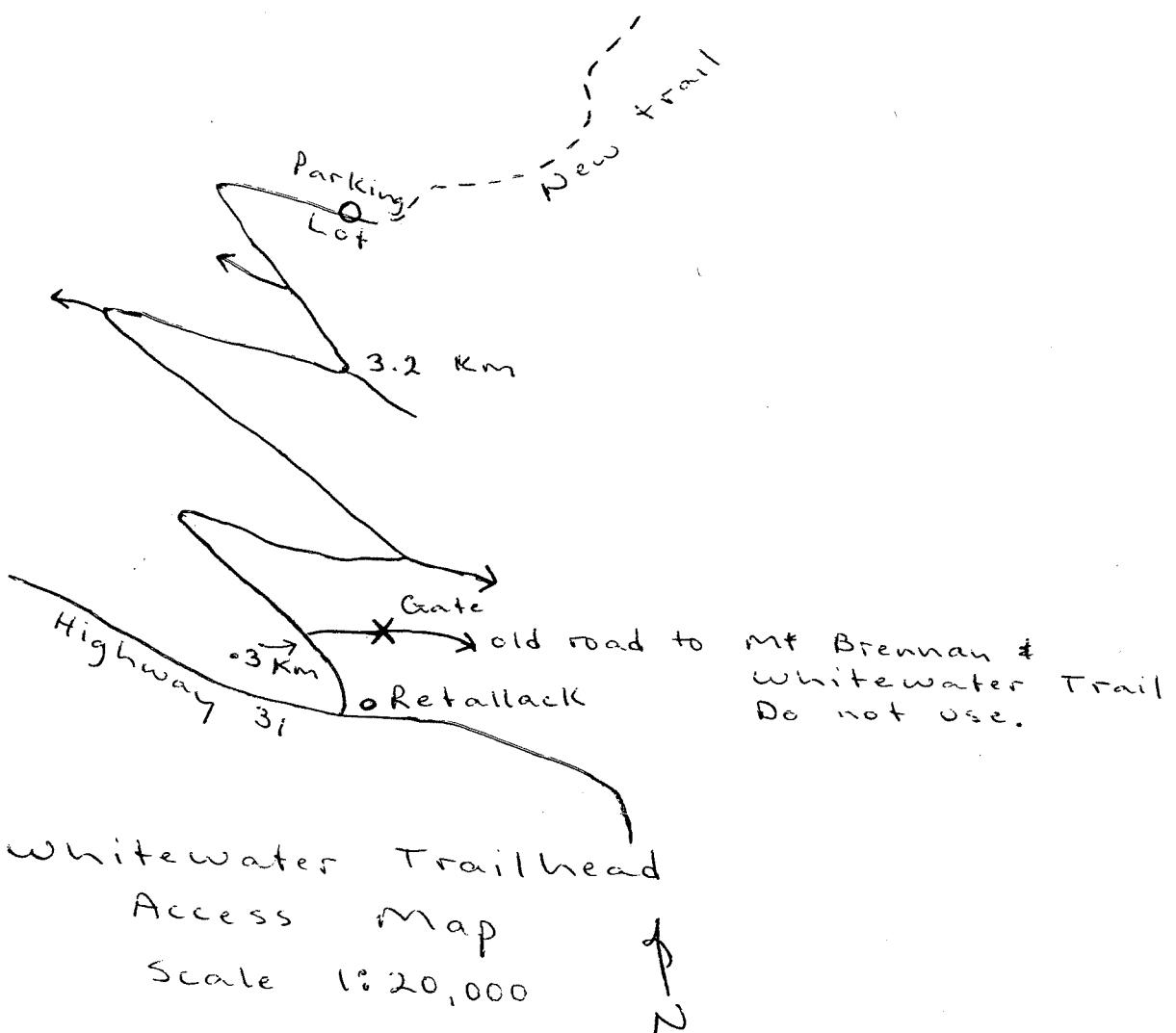
Newsletter submissions.

Send to:
Eliane Miros,
Box 365
Robson, B.C.
V0G 1X0

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E-mail, esmiros@netidea.com
esmiros

Sketch Map of New Access to Mount Whitewater Trailhead



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEER

The Kootenay Mountaineering Club Newsletter

WINTER SPECIAL EDITION Issue 9 Next deadline: January 25th 2002



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Box 3195 Castlegar BC V1N 3H5

Executive

Chair	Paul Allen
Vice	Reid Henderson
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Newsletter	E & S. Miros
Karabiner	Holly Ridenour
Cabins & Trails	Paul Allen
Social	J. Watson/J. Micklethwaite

Contacts

» Membership Annual Dues: «

Individual \$20

Couple/Family \$25

Junior \$10

Send to: KMC Membership

c/o Joan Grodzki

14 2905 Lower 6 Mile Road

Nelson BC V1L 6L7

» Library & Newsletter submissions «

Eliane & Steven Miros

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Robson BC V0G 1X0

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Tel (250) 365-5707

KMC website

www.kootenaymountaineering.bc.ca

Editorial Policy

We encourage all submissions of writings, cartoons, drawings, book & web site reviews and trip reports. Suitability for publication is at editors' discretion. Articles may be edited for clarity and length. Advertising must be thought to be of interest to members in regard to the outdoors, especially locally.

Discretion will be used for commercial endeavors. We are not really interested in paid advertising but the ad could be run as a short feature.

KMC Newsletter

Published 9 times this year

Total circulation for this issue is over 200

Kootenay Mountaineering Club Business News

Slide Show

On October 19, members of all three hiking camps met at the Robson Hall for conversation, sharing of stories and snapshots and some calorie free refreshments. We were also treated to some excellent slides taken in misty first camp by Laurie Charlton and sunny third camp by Ron Perrier. After the show, Laurie was thanked for ten years of fabulous hiking camps, enjoyed by grateful club members.



Library

Just a reminder that the library's move is complete and anyone who wishes to borrow books or videos can phone Eliane or Steven Miros at (250) 365-5707.

E-Mail Updates Members are being asked to contact Bob Dean at bdean@look.ca on whether or not they would like to be (or not to be) on his KMC weekly update e-mail list.

2002 KMC Membership Fees are due Please remember to renew early and avoid missing issues of your favorite newsletter! A big thank you to all of you who have renewed.



AGM Report

32 members attended, following dinner at the

Sandman Inn in Castlegar.

Executive for the year 2002 are:

President: Paul Allen, Vice President: Reid Henderson, Treasurer: Elaine Martin, Secretary: Ross Bates, Newsletter Editors: Eliane & Steven Miros, Climbing camp: Ross Breakwell, Conservation: Kim Kratki, Summer Trips: Don Harasym, Winter Trips: Peter Jordan, Equipment, cabins & trails: Paul Allen, Mountaineering School: Jenny Baillie, Social: Jill Watson & Jan Micklethwaite, Karabiner: Holly Ridenour, Hiking Camp: Drew Desjardins volunteered to attend executive meetings and a committee was appointed with the following members who also expressed an interest in helping in this position: Ron & Janet Cameron, Kay Medland, Bob McQueen, Ray Neumar, Marilyn Pearson.

Laurie Charlton was highly praised and warmly thanked for the outstanding contribution he has brought to the club in offering wonderful hiking camps for well over a decade!

TRIP REPORTS



Brilliant Bluffs, October 14th

The weather did not look very promising when eight of us met at 10 am at the Brilliant Bridge parking lot. However, it improved by the minute and by the time we were on top of the Bluffs the sun was shining. The view of Castlegar and surroundings was exceptionally clear. While we were eating our lunch, two eagles circled close around us. We wondered if they were looking for a meal.

On the way down the other side of the Bluffs, we had to look hard to find the trail that had been partly eliminated by the new transmission line. The leader could not find it and was ready to walk the rest of the way down the logging road, but Ross, with his eagle eyes, spied it and a little while later we all arrived safely back at the golf course where we had left the cars.

Participants on this beautiful fall outing were: Pat and Al Sheppard, Brenda Johnson, Cathy Dale, Ross Bates, Gerda Lang, Linda Hill and coordinator Renate Belczyk.

Evans Creek, October 21st

Six brave souls, namely Andrew Martin, Don Harasym, Julie Pelletier, Gerda Lang, Janice Micklethwaite and Jill Watson decided to ignore the weather forecast, put some faith in their Gore-Tex, and participate in the hike. Julie was obviously keen to brush up on her winter survival skills (she mentioned something about preparing to be "struck out in the cold in December", but we never did get the full story of what that was all about). She sure approached the hike with gusto.

All participants made it to the Evans creek waterfall and back in fine fashion. Speaking of fashion, Jan's blue poncho and new boot combination was unanimously voted the fashion statement of the day, although Jill was heard muttering something about a yellow canary and a recount of the votes. Don won the prize for the most convincing lies about how he really had far more important things to be doing than being out on the hike. His attempts to have us believe that he would rather be at work preparing budgets was so convincing that it brought tears to our eyes as we marveled at his dedication and self delusion. Jill was a close runner up with her story about leaving all the leaves in the yard to be raked up by her hubby, so she could go hiking, because he "really enjoyed doing that sort of thing and needed the exercise". Yeah Jill, we believe you and we won't check with Dave - honest. Gerda was pretty convincing with her cell phone routine at first, but I don't think anyone in the group ever really believed her, since everyone already knows that cell phones don't work more than 10 minutes south of Nelson.

We found a blue Polaroid camera hanging from a branch, which the owner can claim from me at 365-7592, as soon as we've developed and censored the pictures. Just kidding about the pictures that is, especially seeing it is an instant camera. Anyway, a good time was had by all and in the overall scheme of things that's really all that matters.

Andrew Martin

Columbia River Trail, October 28th

A hiker or biker could begin at Selkirk College, the weigh station, West Arms Trucks or they could drive south past the Ootichenia dump, along the Columbia River to the yellow gate which blocks the road to traffic. There is space to park there. If the gate is open, as it was for us, you can drive a four-wheel drive through the fields, once farmed by the Doukhobors, cross Champion Creek on a new bridge, to park along the logging road one or two kilometers beyond the creek.

The trail was dry and much of it is flat and sandy. Although hiking boots will keep the sand out, some hikers were quite comfortable in runners.

With about half of our group coming from Castlegar & Nelson they began at the north end of the trail, while those from Trail & Rossland began at the south end, above Sunningdale. We met mid-way for lunch together, in the warm noon sunshine on the riverbank, looking across to Murphy Creek with its mountainsides dressed in yellow by the feathery tamaracks. We were all happy to have Jenny Baillie with us again after her illness.

Exchanging car keys we padded along on the trail strewn with poplar leaves, catching a glimpse of mallards and a lone loon drifting past on the river current. After about eleven kilometers, the three-hour walk brought us to the vehicles.

To get to the south end of the trail, drive a four-wheel drive through Sunningdale to the water tower road and stay right all the way to the trailhead sign, where there is a parking area. If your car is low, park it when the road gets rough and walk an extra half-hour. To pick up our own vehicles, we met at Waltons - and watched a video of summer hiking camp #2.

Bikers are also using this trail regularly. Rated C-4 for bikers, the distance from the weigh station to the south trailhead is 20.5 km.

We were Myler Wilkinson, Jan Micklethwaite, Jenny Baillie, Jill Watson, Ross Bates, Ron & Janet Cameron, Hazel Kirkwood, Garth Thompson, Marilyn Pearson, Nell Plotnikoff, Don Harasym, Julie Pelletier, Pat West and Nina Poznekoff with coordinators, Muriel & John Walton.

Glade-Castlegar Trail, November 4th

An absolutely gorgeous morning in Rossland! Clear blue skies and warm sunshine, hmm...en route to the Columbia Valley we entered the cloud zone.

Eleven of us met at the Brilliant Bridge parking lot at 9:30 am, with a very brisk wind blowing and low cloud cover. After sorting out the car shuffle logistics, we headed north to Glade and left our vehicles at the bridge. (About one click along the logging road).

(Cross the Kootenay River on ferry and turn right at the first intersection. Follow this road until it enters the forest as a dirt road and continue until you come to the bridge. There is a small clearing to leave cars).

Around 10 am we started walking along the road which was quite pleasant and every now and again we caught views of the river. Eventually the road becomes a trail, winding through the forest. We also enjoyed quite a few uphill

stretches "good for yr'art ya know" and some fancy footwork over and around rocks, which Ted can attest to. We stopped at Mc Phee Creek for lunch around 11:45 and did some recruiting for the club with a young mountain biker cranking it through to Castlegar.

Pat and Al had mentioned the new old waterline trail which leads off from the main one just south of McPhee Creek. So we decided to investigate it. The trail follows the canyon for quite some distance and the views of the creek and walls are beautiful. After veering away from the canyon we walked several steep switchbacks until voila – the old waterline. We had to be especially careful walking along this as the fallen leaves had covered most of it, and with very little wooden casing left the bare metal rings and spaces were dangerous should we get our boots caught. We followed this relic until the path joined up with the main trail, then continued on to our vehicles arriving around 2 pm.

A most enjoyable late season walk.

We were: Al, Pat, Andrew, Don, Frank, Jan, Mary, Nell, Nettie, Ted and coordinator Jill Watson.

Blizzard Mtn 4608' November 10th

(Not a club trip)

The club has had numerous trips to Blizzard Mtn., but none-I think-by bike. On Saturday November 10th, Howie Ridge, Dave Adams, and I rode to the summit accompanied by canine friends Riley and Max. The significant factor of this route is that much of it passes through private land, so it is necessary to ask permission from the owners Jim and John Urquhart, who live on the property. Some details of the route follow. For those who don't know, Blizzard Mtn is within a triangle bounded by Fruitvale, Montrose, and the Columbia and Pend d'Oreille rivers. To gain the BC Hydro access road to the summit, follow the Seven Mile Dam road to its junction with the Waneta-Nelway road. Take the latter uphill and to the left for 3.6 km to the beginning of the Hydro road near Urquhart's Meat Processing. Make sure to have permission before passing through the unlocked gate and starting the 8.5 km grind to the summit, an elevation gain of 2,500'. On this good quality 2WD dirt road, keep right at all junctions; recent logging has created a network of new roads. At km 2.5, you cross Four Mile Creek and pass an old homestead; you will be heading toward the long, gentle south ridge leading to Blizzard. Once it gains the ridge, the road heads north crossing power lines at km 5.5; beyond this point the road steepens markedly, and views improve as you switchback to the top. Our ascent took about 2 ½ hours, including a 30 min. lunch break. There was not a trace of snow on this balmy, sunny November day. In sum, this is a good shoulder season outing, but is not recommended for summer when the temperatures on this south-facing slope with little water could be intense.

Kim Kratki

Pilot Point Trails, November 18th

Our hiking group was blessed with a spectacular day weather wise considering that it was the middle of November. Two of the gang of ten even wore shorts in comfort. We caught the 9:20 AM ferry ride at Balfour

which happened to be the first ride for several on the new Osprey. Some were quite nostalgic, even critical, much preferring the now unused and forlorn looking Anscomb moored nearby. Hiking commenced about 10:15 AM. Along the way, we stopped for a short break at Boomers Beach and then, through misadventure, wandered upslope to connect with the Upper Levels Trail. Although completely in the trees, this trail is very well kept, provided a good elevation gain and allowed us to do a loop. Proceeding south, we arrived for lunch at a beach located near Tipi Camp about 1:15 PM. This beach is accessed by a long set of slippery wooden stairs which Frank negotiated by means of cartwheels and a heavy landing. Apart from a couple of minor scrapes, injury was avoided. This was a super place for lunch, basking in the sun while looking down the lake for miles. We proceeded back along the lake to the parking lot arriving about 3:15 PM shortly after the sun had set. Although the coordinator was subject to some good natured ribbing about his leadership skills and although having to wait for an hour for the return ferry ride, all very much appreciated the chance to be out for the hike.

Participants: Ray Neumar, Bonnie Neumar, Andrew Martin, Mary Woodward, Gerda Lang, Ted Ibrahim, Nell Plotnikoff, Frank Fodor and Bob Dean.

Coordinator: Don Harasym

Sproule Creek Trail, November 25th

Ten hikers participated in the last scheduled hike of the season. After first rendezvousing at the Taghum FrontageRoad/Highway #3 intersection, we proceeded up Sproule Creek Road with our vehicles and were on the trail by 10:50 A.M. Temperature was around 0 C. and plenty of cloud was present but no snow to walk on or to fall on us. About half way along the trail, a lone and fairly long log placed well above the creek had to be negotiated. The brave ones with good balance made successful crossings of the log while others went down to the creek and managed to jump from rock to rock without getting their feet too wet. An hour and a half walk brought us to a clearing located at the end of the trail where lunch was had. We arrived back at the trail head about 2:15 PM. Although the walk was relatively short, those in attendance appreciated the chance to get into the outdoors once again and to visit with each other.

Participants: Gerda Lang, Ted Ibrahim, Frank Fodor, Casey Fodor, Brad Steele, Ruth Cordiner, Al Sheppard, Pat Sheppard and Clo Burton. Coordinator: Don Harasym

If anyone is interested in the Hiking and Climbing Voyage that was advertised in the last Newsletter, I have further information on it, and also on the area to be visited. The voyage has been postponed to February 2003. Norman Thyer, 352-5265, or e-mail nthyer@uniserve.com

Letters

Submitted by Norman Thyer

One problem we often encounter in getting to our hiking/climbing areas is the presence of deep water-bars on the roads. To cross these, one needs a high-clearance vehicle, and therefore this situation encourages us to buy Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs). However, such vehicles are notorious for their high fuel consumption and therefore contributions to greenhouse gases.

If decommissioned forest roads are to be kept open at all, it would make sense to make them accessible to more fuel-efficient vehicles too, or else close them off altogether. Water-bars that permit lower-clearance vehicles should be possible. Indeed, on the forest road above Blewett, there are drainage channels that start near the middle of the road and go diagonally to the lower edge, allowing all types of vehicles to cross them. I have already written to the Ministry of Forests, mentioning the above possibilities, but bureaucrats don't seem to take a single complainant very seriously, often dismissing him as a "crank". In this instance, the response was that less environmental damage is caused by the higher vehicle exhausts than would be caused by removing the water-bars. Do you think this was a satisfactory reply? If not, what else should we do?

Icicles

"The true measure of success is not what you have, but what you can do without."
(H. Jackson Brown) *Thank you Norman for this great one!*

"The task of the first century (of the Swiss Alpine Club) has been the development of the Alps; the task of the second must be their preservation" Dr.E.Wyss-Dunant

"I may be biased, but when people say they summit mountains for the view, I don't believe them. No one suffers the way one does on a mountain simply for a beautiful view. A summit isn't just a place on a mountain. A summit exists in our hearts and minds. It is a tiny scrap of a dream made real, indisputable proof that our lives have meaning. A summit is a symbol that with the force of our will and the power of our legs, our backs, and our two hands, we can transform our lives into whatever we choose them to be, whatever our hands are strong enough to create" (Erik Weihenmayer)

New Books

- 103 Hikes in Southwestern British Columbia (Revised & updated 5th Edition), by Jack Bryceland and Marion & David Mcraee (Greystone Books). *Updated to include 20 new hikes.*
- Easy Hiking Around Vancouver: An All Season Guide - Revised & Updated - By Jean Cousins (Greystone Books) *55 hikes within an hour drive of Vancouver.*
- Touch The Top Of The World, by Erik Weihenmayer (Dutton): *Controversial book recounting the author's struggle to push past the limits placed on him by his visual impairment - and by a seeing world, during which he climbs Mt McKinley, Rockwall of El Capitan, and Argentina's Aconcagua.*
- Backcountry Huts & Lodges of the Rockies and the Columbias, by Jim Scott (Johnson Gorman Publishers, 2003-35th ave SW, Calgary AB T2T 2E2 Tel(403)246-7956 or www.jgbooks.com): *From primitive shelters to palatial fully commercial guided operations, this book offers something for every budget, skill level and taste. Includes booking arrangements.*

Ed. Note: These books as well as the Banff Mountain Book Festival titles are not available in the KMC Library.

Editors' note

A big Thank you to all contributors. This newsletter is dependent on you. This time of year calls for warm wishes to be extended from our family to you with a truly special wish for a healthy, happy and active 2002!

And let it snow!



Banff Mountain Book Festival

Grand prize: Hazard's Way, by Roger Hubank (The Ernest Press, Scotland)

Mountain Literature: Kiss or Kill: Confessions of a Serial Climber, by Mark Twight (The Mountaineers Books, U.S.)

Mountain Exposition: Fifty Favorite Climbs: The Ultimate North American Tick List, by Mark Kroese (The Mountaineers Books, U.S.)

Adventure Travel: Arctic Crossing: A Journey through the Northwest Passage and Inuit Culture, by Jonathan Waterman (Random House of Canada)

Mountain Image: The High Himalaya, by Art Wolfe & Peter Potterfield (The Mountaineers Books, U.S.)



KOOTENAY MOUNTAINEERING

Winter Trip Schedule 2001-2002

December	9	Kootenay Pass (depending on snow) B3	Peter Tchir	352-5959
	16	Evening Ridge (avalanche practice) B3	Peter Jordan	352-5225
	23	Contact Peter if you can lead a trip this weekend and put off Christmas shopping until the 24 th .		
	26 Wed	Plewman Basin B-C3 (annual turkey burn)	Ken Holmes	362-7723
	30	TBA probably C3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
January	6	TBA probably B2 or C3	Fred Thiessen	352-6140
	■ 6	Mitchener Creek (Blueberry-Paulson) B2	Jill Watson	362-5660
	13	TBA C3	Roland Perrin	352-5480
	20	Wolf Creek (Kootenay Pass) C3	Dave Toews	825-9346
	■ 23 Wed	Moose to Beaver Circuit (Blueberry-Paulson) B2	Janet Cameron	364-1487
	27	Ripple Ridge (Kootenay Pass) C3	Dave Horner	352-3223
	■ 30 Wed	Mitchener Creek (Blueberry-Paulson) B2	Ron Cameron	364-1487
February	1 Sat	Neptune (Strawberry Pass) C3	Bert Port	365-6056
	3	Kutel Basin D3	Dwain Boyer	825-4654
	■ 3	Moose to Beaver Circuit (Blueberry-Paulson) B2	Jill Watson	362-5660
	■ 6 Wed	Bonanza Creek (Blueberry-Paulson) B2	Janet Cameron	364-1487
	10	Lost Creek (Kootenay Pass) C3	Peter Jordan	352-5225
	17	TBA probably C3	Peter Tchir	352-5959
	■ 20 Wed	Sunshine (Nancy Greene Summit) C2	Ron Cameron	364-1487
	24	Clearwater-Ymir Traverse D2	Kim Kratky	352-3895
	■ 27 Wed	Crowe-Cliff (Nancy Greene Summit) C2	Janet Cameron	364-1487
March	3	TBA probably C3	Dave Horner	352-3223
	■ 6 Wed	Coffee Run (Rossland) B2	Janet Cameron	364-1478
	10	TBA probably D3	Roland Perrin	352-5480
	17	TBA probably D3	Fred Thiessen	352-0780
	24	TBA probably C-D3	Dwain Boyer	825-4654
EASTER March 29 – April 1 Contact Peter if you would like to do something this weekend, even just one of the four days.				
April	7	Mt Ripple D3	Dave Mitchell	354-4052
	14	Mt. Brennan D3	Ken Holmes	362-7723
	21	Old Glory D3	Bert Port	365-6056
	28	TBA probably C3	Vivien Bowers	825-4392

Destinations and dates: Many of the destinations given in the schedule are tentative. Access often changes during the winter, and snow conditions or avalanche hazard may require a change of destination. Watch the newsletter for details.

Trip classification: Trips are classified according to strenuousness (A-D) and level of difficulty (1-4). This classification is very approximate, as the difficulty of a trip will vary greatly depending on snow conditions.

A - easy (a short day, little elevation gain). B - fairly easy (a longer day or moderate elevation gain).

C - average (a full day, reasonable level of fitness required) D - strenuous (a long day, lots of elevation gain)

1 - track skiing. 2 - off-track touring (suitable for cross-country touring skis). 3 - moderate back-country skiing (telemark or alpine touring skis and skins required, need some ability to turn).

4 - advanced back-country skiing (should be an intermediate or advanced telemarker, steep slopes and difficult route finding may be involved).

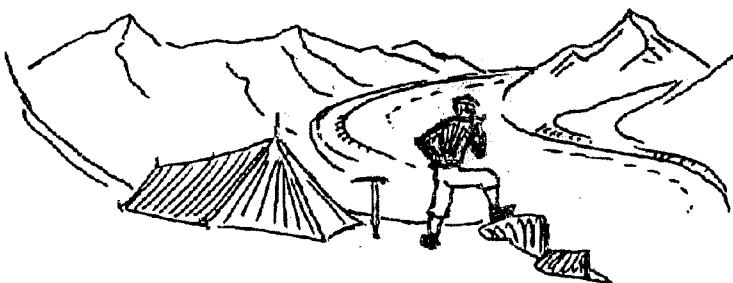
Avalanches: Many of the trips involve travel in terrain where there is some risk of avalanches. All participants should have avalanche awareness and must carry an avalanche beacon and shovel. The club has Pieps for rent; ask the trip leader for details.

If you want to take part in backcountry ski trips, it is highly recommended that you take an avalanche awareness course.

For more information phone the winter trips chairperson, Peter Jordan, at 352-5225, or e-mail at pjordan@netidea.com.

NOSTALGIA . . .

These two C.J.Penn drawings (Front page and right) and the following passages are from the introduction to Volume 1 of the Kootenay Karabiner, June 1964. Although the KMC is no longer affiliated with the A.C.C. the relationship our founding members had with that organization did help in the formation of our club. The Kootenay Karabiner at that time was "The Journal of the Kootenay Section of The Alpine Club of Canada".



Within the East and West Kootenays there had been many enthusiastic hikers and climbers. Some of these have become active members of the Alpine Club of Canada. This club usually referred to, as A.C.C. is nation wide, having been formed in 1906. It has members in many parts of the world and has therefore been divided into local Sections for better organization within each region... Kootenay Section is the youngest as of spring 1964... Locally, about 4 years ago, a few who had joined the parent organization thought that a local Section should be formed. Rick Askew and Jack Steed looked into the matter and began gathering information. More recently, the number of active A.C.C. members has increased and more pressure for a local Section began... It was felt that many more people would become active members of A.C.C. and enjoy the freedom of the hills if there was a Kootenay Section. On many a week-end, there are people who would like to climb or hike, but do not know of others to hike with...

Kim Deane was the ball of fire that took on the job of writing up a constitution for our proposed section. He wrote many letters and spent many hours planning for the start of the Section. (Much had to be approved by the parent organization)...

One day in December, on the way skiing, Chris Penn suggested producing a little Journal. He was immediately supported in the idea by Jack Oswald, and at that stage we appointed ourselves as co-editors... Since that time interest and article contributions have been increasing. The amount of geographical and other information acquired during each year by members of the Section is felt to be worth making known more generally than by means of their periodical meetings. It has, therefore, been resolved to establish a Journal, which shall not only give an account of their proceedings, but also contain other matter relating to mountain explorations, and thereby extend to all members of the Kootenay Section, and to the public in general, advantages which would otherwise be enjoyed only by those able to attend regularly the meetings of the Section...

It is intended to report all new and interesting mountain expeditions, mainly in the Kootenays; to publish any such new items of scientific and geographical knowledge as can be procured from the various available sources; to give some account of new books treating of Alpine matters and, generally, to record all facts and incidents which it may be useful to the Kootenay mountaineer to know. The Section being responsible for a Journal published under its direction, as many of the narratives as possible should be written by members; but the Journal will be open to all persons interested in the matters with which we concern ourselves.

The footnotes from that edition read as follows:

Did you read the Introduction? Perhaps you think the wording a bit formal, almost Victorian?... Well, it is Victorian. Just 101 years ago, the very first mountaineering periodical, called simply "The Alpine Journal", began publication in London, and is still in print today. I was so impressed by the introduction to the first edition that I have ventured to reproduce it, altering only such things as place names where appropriate. It seems as true today as when it was written, expressing our aims and the scope of our embryo journal perfectly. I wonder if any of our senior members recognize the passage, and if our publication will have the same success, on a smaller scale, of its famous forerunner. I trust too that the Editors of that journal will look kindly upon the quotation, for it is intended as a tribute rather than a plagiarism. Long live the Alpine Journal – and the Kootenay Karabiner!

One last TRIP REPORT

Mount Beaver 10,650' 3200m, August 19th 2001 They are still there and accessible for those interested in big, beautiful mountains with classic mountaineering: Duncan, Beaver and Sugarloaf. Participants: three classic mountaineers, Roby Lidstone, Fred Thiessen and Peter Tchir... About ten years ago the Club found wonderful mountaineering at the very end of the Duncan River Road where from the car day ascents of Duncan, Beaver and Sugarloaf, all glaciated peaks over 3000 m on the south boundary of Glacier National Park, were made. Since I had missed the Beaver trip then, and since I had been wanting to complete the trio, we put this peak on the schedule for August. It is a little sad that for such a great outing we were only able to draw Fred, Robyn and myself whereas ten years ago all the trips were about a dozen climbers.

The road is still easily driven even by 2WD to the Butters Creek bridge which is close, but would make for a long day to climb any of the three peaks. So Fred pushed his 4WD through heavy overgrown alder for several more kilometres until we were at a good campsite about 500 m from where the road crosses the very headwaters of the Duncan River where it drains down from Duncan Glacier. On our first trip into the area we had been able to drive one or two kilometres past this creek to a high landing that gave great access. On later trips the bridge was out and this creek was the end of the drive making the bushwhack a bit longer. This year we got close, but within a year or two the alder will make the last portion of the road unusable and require a longer hike in.

The first part of the climb – 1-2 hours of bush, a long moraine and up some steep slopes to the col north of Duncan – is pretty much as it was ten years ago. Robyn, suffering from sore ribs from an accident earlier in the summer, had to turn back part way up the Beaver Glacier while Fred and I continued up to the Duncan-Beaver col, crossing the bergschrund on its left side. The scramble to the top of Beaver on its south-east ridge is mostly class 3, maybe a bit of 4 at the aux-cheval, but much of the rock is not that nice.

The weather we had was not very nice either, so the great potential views of the Battle Range to the south, the Glacier Park peaks to the north and west and the northern Purcells to the east did not materialize. On the return trip we rappelled from the col into the bergschrund, not because the up track would have been too difficult, but just for fun. The drive down was not as eventful as the drive up because we were not able to find another topless young lady hitch-hiking up the Duncan. (From Peter Tchir)

The Kootenay Experience in Nelson BC is a full service backcountry retail outlet, offering avalanche courses, instruction and guides courses as well as own and operate ski touring at the Ymir Yurts. We offer backcountry skiers and boarders a low impact, very unique and intimate winter experience. Our 9 year operation is mainly touring based with over 20 alpine bowls and peaks offering 2800' descents. Typically, we offer 4, 5 and 8-day trips, all based out of our 2 backcountry camps with 2 yurts each (maximum of 8 guest per Yurt destination). We had a recent change in our tenure status. We currently access our terrain by snowcat (cats cannot access the Yurts). Guests are shuttled to the top of Wild Horse Pass where skiers and boarders use their own steam to access the yurts' enormous tenure. As of this month, we have been given permission to run cat skiing. We are members of the BC Helicopter and Snowcat Skiing Operators Association; all our guides are certified with avalanche, first aid and guides training. At this point, we will be approaching cat skiing un hurriedly on a per day basis, staying more focused on ski touring. Trips range from 4 to 8 days, all are catered and can be either guided or unguided. Prices range from \$495 for 4 days unguided to \$1195 for 8 days catered and guided. Our day rate for cat skiing will be \$250. We are very excited about our product and feel that it is competitively priced and due to our vast and variable terrain (50sq km) it is well suited for all backcountry enthusiasts. We would like to extend a 10% discount to all KMC members and a 50% discount to anyone booking a whole group (8 people). For more information contact Martin Keyserlingk Marketing Director, Kootenay Experience, Ymir Yurts, Victoria Street Place, 306 Victoria Street, Nelson, B.C., V1L4K4. The website is www.KootenayExperience.com or you can also contact us at 1-888-488-4327 or e-mail us at sales@kootenayexperience.com.

Dear Mountaineers,

Pakistan's Karakoram Mountains, hundreds of untrammelled peaks, spires and fluted ridges, rise from the greatest consolidation of high peaks in the world. In a central hundred mile area, 60 peaks above 23,000'. Trekking here is an experience that does not fail to captivate and enthrall one's sense of adventure. However young trekking and mountain enthusiasts at Interactive Communications have found a void in the expedition world. They were unable to locate a community portal where mountaineers and trekkers themselves provide first hand information about their experiences and keep in touch with current happenings specific to the Karakoram region and northern Pakistan. This void has since been filled by Karakorams.com whose aim is to provide accurate reliable information and opportunities on this region. We will continue to develop and grow as our users do. We would be grateful if you help us improve our site by filling out our online questionnaire and welcome experiences, suggestions and comments. The questionnaire URL is at www.karakorams.com/Survey

Regards, Ms. Tauheed Sohail, E-Business Analyst, Inter Active Communications, www.iacommunications.com