

The HIGH ROAD

Starting the 2nd century of the Alpine Club of Canada and the 2nd decade of the Okanagan Section.

<http://members.shaw.ca/accokanagan/ACCOK.htm>

2006 AGM

Saturday Nov. 4th 2006

**Potluck Dinner & Mountaineering Skills Day
1pm, Apex Ski Resort at the Double Diamond
Hostel. All are welcome. See below or contact
anyone on the executive for more info.**

Editor's Warning:

This Issue of our Newsletter was prepared by someone with no desktop publishing experience, and with the help of section members whose trip reports and/or mystery stories may contain exaggerations and factual errors. Enjoy!

Message from the Chair

Where did the summer go? I know that it was here because it seems I must have mowed my lawn about 50 times. Oh well, time to watch the leaves change and get ready for the SNOW! I take this time to digress. It was a very busy summer with the multitude of Centennial activities. These events took place on both the National and Section levels, including our sections very successful weekend at the Wheeler Hut a few weeks back. Highlights from the weekend included the Elizabeth Parker play, a tribute to our very own Leon Blummer and a wonderful catered dinner for a packed house. Kudos to Neil Fried, trip leaders and other volunteers who helped make this weekend such a success. On the National front I was very fortunate to take part in a few events including the historic steam train ride from Field to Glacier, just as folks would have done it 100 years ago. Centennial events are still ongoing so check the National website for details.

I extend my gratitude to Mark Force for his voluntary efforts in



On the way up Mt. Baker. Photo by Trent Marshall

Alpine Club of Canada, Okanagan Section Trip Report for Mount Baker via the Coleman Denning Route May 5-6, 2006

Although not considered a technically difficult route, we soon found out what a slog Baker can be. Andrea Petzold,

coordinating the Valkyrs Memorial weekend. I know all who attended would agree this was a fitting tribute to our friends Pat and TJ. They will not be forgotten!

OK back to the snow!

The upcoming ski season is already taking shape with our three Asulkan weekends blocked off, as well as the Campbell Icefields ski week so sign up now as things are sure to fill quickly. Dates and info are on the website.

The AGM is set for November 4th at Apex Resort so if you are looking to refresh some skills, enjoy a potluck dinner or just want to come out to socialize, mark this date in your calendar. If you are interested in joining the executive, or for more info, contact anyone on the executive for a list of positions and descriptions. Well I think that briefly covers what has past and what is upcoming. As the ACC OK Section moves ahead into its 11th year, take a moment and give thought to our sections past and its future. Lest not forget the countless hours of volunteer efforts to bring our membership, many camps, trips, events, training sessions, newsletters, meetings, website, etc. that make the section what it is...a great club that will continue for decades with a little help.

Dave Rothwell
Chair

Brian Butt and I left the Glacier Creek access road at 1:00pm on Friday afternoon after a mandatory Starbucks loiter session. The access road is a windy 13km climb to the Heliotrope Ridge parking lot and we were fortunate to be able to drive 10km. We spent the better part of two hours skinning in and out of trees before the trail opened up to huge snow covered moraines. We made camp at the toe of the Coleman Glacier, having climbed about 1275m/4180ft, and enjoyed a dehydrated meal of who knows what.

At 4:30am, we were awoken by the sound of crampons on the icy snow as a climbing party passed our tent. After breakfast and a debate on the mediocre weather, we set off at 6:30am. The col between Baker and Colfax peak was relatively simple to find as we weaved our way up the glacier. Due to the relatively large snowfall Baker received this year, we collectively decided to travel unroped as all but the largest crevasses were filled. Once at the col the skis were buried, we put on crampons and started up the ridge and ramp, leading to the summit. The headwall is about 300m/1000ft up and although 30 degrees at bottom and 45-50 degrees at the top, the exposure is enough (as Andrea put it) to get your attention. Once on summit plateau (3280m/10,758ft) at 10:30am, the wind blew so hard I could barely enjoy my frozen Powerbar. The decent was, although easier, not the most enjoyable ski I've ever had as it ranged from ice to slush. At 6:00pm, we were eating Mexican food and having a much deserved beer in Sumas. All in all a great climb with great partners.

Trent Marshall



Laurie Swartz as Ms. Elizabeth Parker. Photo by Dave Rothwell.

Amaretto on the Rocks

A story perpetrated by Carla Stephens and Brenda Bouchette

The party was in full swing when a well-refreshed Neil M approached the authors. "Wachabba PRRROblem. A SARRRIOUS problem. Tharr is a buttle of ARAMETTO. In... the hut. He LEFT! It's somewharr in.. the HUT! Tom LEFT. He brought it. Arametto. Atawanty-sixer. Can't find it. LOST!"

The authors, who understood the above by virtue of being in a similar state of refreshment as the speaker, set about to search for this lost bottle of Amaretto liqueur. Since Tom had brought the bottle, and Tom had left the premises without passing on any information regarding the whereabouts of this bottle, we had no small task in front of us. The only further clue was that this bottle was purportedly stored inside a plastic shopping bag.

Every plastic shopping bag in the hut was inspected. Like hounds after their quarry, the authors peered into bags containing tin cans, foodstuffs, and refuse. All to no avail. The Amaretto remained hidden.

But ACC members are not so easily defeated. The search was sporadically resumed throughout the night, with renewed vigour as the boxed wine began to run dry. And then... success.

The prize was brought surreptitiously into the back room, where a number of civilized and edifying conversations were taking place in a convivial atmosphere. The Amaretto was distributed amongst those present, in generous helpings. The atmosphere

Where you want to be when you want to be there!

Up Coming Trips

Campbell Icefields March 2007

DATES

Saturday March 3rd to Saturday March 10th, 2007.

LOCATION

The chalet is situated at tree level at 6850 feet, near the towering peaks of the Freshfield Range, north of Golden, BC, near the Continental Divide, on the snowy west side of the Rocky Mountains.

WEBSITE

See the lodge and terrain etc at <http://www.skigolden.com>

MAPS

Topographic Maps Blaeberry River 82N/10 and Bluewater Creek 82N/11

ACCESS

Access is from Golden BC which is approx. a 5 hour drive from Kelowna. Also note time change of 1 hour when referring to flight times from Golden. Flight time is 15 minutes by helicopter from Golden. Exact staging info and times will be provided at later date.

COST

Full payment is required by December 1st, 2006 in the amount of \$730.00 If payment is made after this date cost will be 800.00. Sign up before Dec 1 and receive this 70.00 discount.

REGISTRATION

Camp size will be limited to a maximum of 16 people. Applications will be excepted on a first received basis. Camp will be open to

became more convivial.

Only one thing was missing... ice. And Neil F, a man of high standards, was not willing to settle for Amaretto neat. A large chunk of ice, about a pound in size, was procured from the beer-cooler and placed at the centre of the table. Neil F retained, at this point in the evening, sufficient faculties to appreciate that such a block was not appropriate for distribution amongst the drinkers. The block must be separated into smaller pieces. And the most appropriate tool with which to attain this end was a hatchet. Fortunately, one was nearby.

The hatchet fell with a crash. The table shook. Glasses leapt from the table, spilling their contents. Men hurraed, ladies swooned. The only object on the table to escape damage was the sober block of ice, which, at the approach of the hatchet, had deftly slipped aside.

Anxious to show himself the better man, Dave R smashed the block of ice upon the floor, dashing it into small pieces. The drinks were now on the rocks, and the party resumed its happy course.

The Amaretto was enjoyed to the last drop, and Neil F excused his earlier barbarism by producing an excellent bottle of scotch. The camaraderie continued unabated, with laughter and stories of derring-do. Our illustrious and notable guest filled the evening with tales of what Himalayan peaks he would climb, if only someone else would arrange it for him. Other armchair mountaineers chimed in with definitive suggestions for surmounting the challenges of the Kangchenjunga

only ACC Okanagan Section Members until December 1st 2006, then it will be opened to other sections and groups. Mail attached application form, signed waiver and your check to Dave Rothwell at address below.

CANCELLATION POLICY

A substantial amount of work goes into organizing camps. In addition, further work is required to find a replacement participant when cancellations occur. For this reason, we strongly recommend that each participant purchase cancellation insurance. ACC Okanagan strongly recommends that you purchase cancellation insurance to protect yourself in case you are unable to attend the camp because of a medical or emergency reasons.

Cancellation Insurance costs an additional \$88.00/person based on \$730.00/person.

To purchase cancellation insurance, Sandy Walker at ACC National (403) 678 3200 (swalker@AlpineClubofCanada.ca) MUST be contacted within 72 hours of paying your deposit. If you pay by cheque, date and mail your cancellation insurance cheques within 72 hours of making your trip deposit.

For a description of insurance coverage, visit <http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca> then navigate to Mountain Adventures, click Registration and then scroll down to the Policy Wording.PDF

ABOUT THIS CAMP

The ACC Okanagan Section is not providing any guide service at this camp. Once in camp, activities must be governed by the level of experience one possesses in such an environment. Previous ski touring experience is strongly suggested. Glacier travel and

spur, the Shipton Col, and the notorious ice staircase on Dangmebum. Distant and unclimbed peaks were assaulted well into the night.

As a footnote, it was noted the next morning that Neil M was better served by the suppression of the bottle than he would have been otherwise. Meanwhile Constable Trent M has approximately 40 ACC members under full investigation to find out who actually stole the missing bottle of Amaretto -- an extensive search uncovered the evidence - an empty bottle of Amaretto in the back of Neil M's truck -- rumour has it that he may have consumed it after all but Constable M promises no more donuts or coffee until he solves this disturbing ACC mystery.



Brenda Bouchette photo by Andrew Parker

What is the Asulkan Cabin?

And why go there? The Asulkan Cabin is a warm inviting cabin in a beautiful high place above Roger's Pass. It is hard to decide which is more rewarding, the skiing, the scenery or sharing laughs with friends.

This trip is one of the most popular offered by the Okanagan Section. People with limited experience are welcome if they discuss their equipment with Dave

crevasse rescue experience is also suggested. Groups are self guided and self catered (food groups).

MORE INFORMATION

Contact Dave Rothwell at 250-768-0002 or mountainphoto@shaw.ca.

Checks can be mailed to Dave at
2221 Helgason Dr.
Westbank BC
V4T 1R9



Mount Tsuius, Monashees. Photo by Andrew Parker

Okanagan Section Annual General Meeting Saturday Nov. 4th 2006

Potluck Dinner and Mountaineering Skills Day. Come out and join in on the fun for the ACC Okanagan Section Annual General Meeting. This year's AGM event will be held at Apex Ski Resort at the Double Diamond Hostel (www.doublediamondhostel.com). This is a fun and enjoyable day with lots of activities, potluck, social etc. Overnight **accommodations** are available for \$20.00 per person. Below is a tentative schedule of events offered for this year's AGM. All that is required is your attendance and some food to contribute toward the potluck dinner. Also, if you wish, bring your sleeping bag and pillow. The lodge is complete with hostel style rooms (private rooms

Urness first. There is a 4.5 hour ski to cabin from the Gunsite parking lot at Rogers Pass (can be done in less time in good conditions, etc).

It is a great Class A cabin with propane heat, lights, and stoves. Varied terrain, from steep slopes to glade skiing. Pieps, probe, and shovel are a necessity. For more info contact Dave Urness at artdoc@telus.net.



Dave Rothwell's ACC Centennial Logo

Up Coming Courses

Emergency Mountaineering First Aid

Nov. 18 and 19, 2006

Kelowna

Only one spot left. This course introduces you to basic first aid related to traumatic injuries in the mountains as well as medical emergencies related to the outdoor & mountain environment. This course has a strong emphasis on the outdoors and improvising with the materials at hand in outdoor situations For more info contact Janice at ajmcq@shaw.ca.

available) with bunks and mattresses, shower and washroom facilities and a full kitchen.

AGM Events schedule:

1:00pm - Meet at the hostel, Apex Resort (Directions Below)

1:30pm - Mountain Skills review and acquisition Courses - Pick a course you are interested in!

1) Avalanche transceiver use and practice (Bring a transceiver if you own one).

2) Crevasse Rescue and Glacier travel (Bring a climbing harness if you own one.

Equip. will be available for those without).

3) Map/compass skills review.

4) Snowshoe/ ski/ hike - depending on how much snow there is! (Bring own equipment).

5) Other skill sets may be offered as well

5:00pm - Potluck Dinner at the hostel: Please bring food (dinner, appetizer or a desert)

and your own beverages. The lodge has full kitchen facilities.

7:00pm-7:45pm Annual General Meeting - Nomination and Election of Executive and Directors for 2006/ 2007. (If interested in joining executive or for more info on the exec contact Dave at 768-0002).

Other club related information.

8:00pm - Social and raffle prizes

8:30pm- 9:00pm - Slide show

9:00-? Cocktails, Socializing and fun!

Directions: From Hwy 97 in Kelowna, take Highway 97 south to Penticton. As you approach Penticton, at the second set of lights, turn right onto the Channel Parkway By Pass. At the second set of lights turn right onto Green Mountain Road towards Apex Mountain Resort.

following the Apex signs. This turn off has a bridge crossing the channel, immediately

followed by a Super Save Gas station.

Follow Green Mountain Road for approximately 22km.

Turn right at the intersection (Apex Guest Ranch) and drive another 11km to Apex. Follow signs to

Fred's Annual Tele Clinic

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006

At Big White or another local ski resort. Spend a day dedicated to improving your telemark skills. For more info contact telemeister Fred Waldron at frederickwaldron070@msn.com

ACC Okanagan Section Executive

Chair

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Trip Coordinator

[Dave Urness](#), (250)762-8586

village. For more info contact Dave Rothwell at 768-0002.



View from the way up Mt. Baker. Photo by Trent Marshall

Asulkan Hut Dates

January 19th and 20th
February 16th and 17th
March 16th and 17th