

THE TRIPPER



Newsletter of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club C/O 381 Cedar St., Cultus Lake B.C. V2R 4Z1

TRIP REPORT

CREVASSES & CRAGS: NOV. 15

TALES FROM THE COAST MOUNTAINS

WHISTLER MUSEUM/AUDAIN ART MUSEUM

WHISTLER MUSEUM
SPEAKERS SERIES

Crevasse & Crag: Tales from the Coast Mountains

With
**ARNOLD SHIVES
& GLENN WOODSWORTH**

WHERE:
WHISTLER MUSEUM
4333 MAIN STREET

WHEN:
WEDNESDAY NOV 15TH
DOORS 6PM, TALK 7PM

TICKETS:
\$10 (\$5 FOR MUSEUM
& CLUB SHRED MEMBERS)
CASH BAR

Whistler Museum

DAVID&TEA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The death of Dick Culbert this past spring ended, in some ways, an era of West Coast mountaineering. The years from 1960-1975 have been dubbed "The Culbert Era" of climbing and publishing in the Coastal Mountains.



Glenn Woodsworth and Arnold Shives were two of Dick's closest climbing companions, so I assisted in the organizing, with the Whistler Museum, of an event in which Glenn and Arnold would do a lecture and visual slide show on mountaineering in the Culbert era. The fact the Audain Art Museum in Whistler is also hosting the Stone and Sky: Canada's Mountain Landscape exhibit (November 2017-February 2018) meant both the Audain and Whistler Museum could do something together. And, the enticing fact a couple of Arnold's paintings are in the exhibit meant a joint event of sorts could be done together.

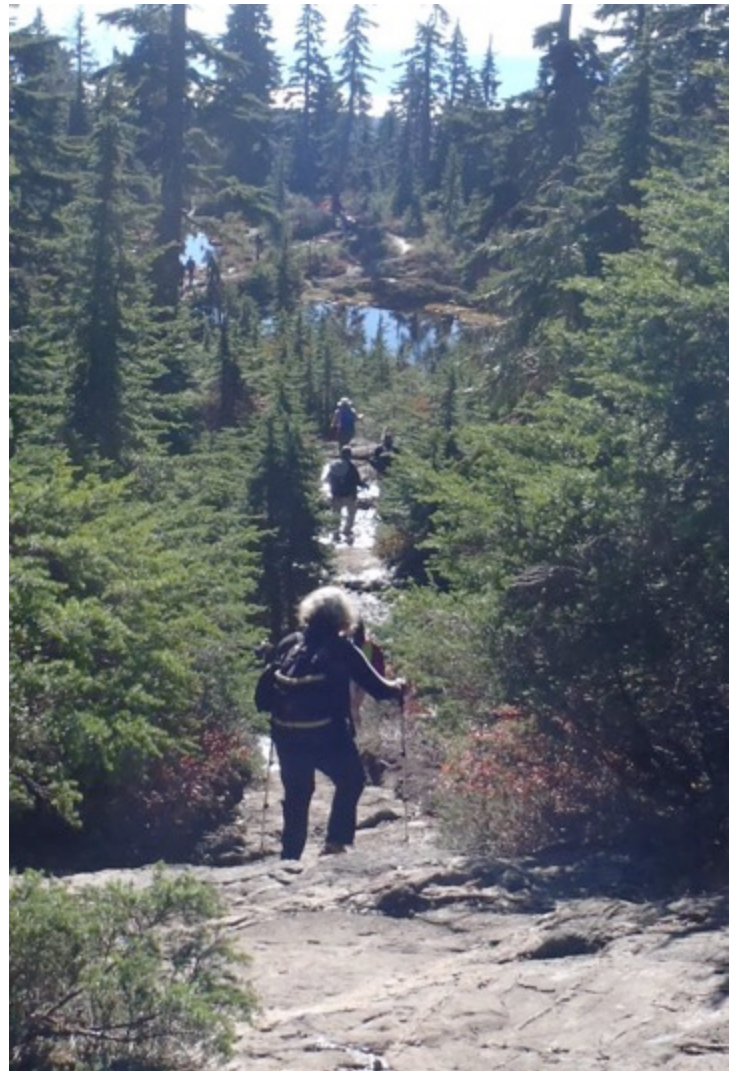
The 1st generation of climbing on the West Coast was dominated by Don/Phyllis Munday, Neal Carter, Tom Fyles, Roger Neave, Eric/Emmie Brooks and others so well recorded by Susan Leslie in *In The Western Mountains: Early Mountaineering in British Columbia* (1980). I was fortunate to teach with Susan for a few years at University of the Fraser Valley. But, it was the 2nd generation of BC

climbers that was the focus of the lecture by Glenn and Arnold in their well crafted "Crevasses and Craggs: Tales from the Coast Mountains" presentation. The fact that Glenn and Arnold (and Karl Ricker & Dick Culbert, of course) were front and centre in the 2nd generation of climbers from 1960-1975 meant the lecture was replete with photo after photo (and discussed amply and well) of the many 1st ascents by Dick, Glenn and Arnold in the Coastal Mountains.

I have been fortunate, over the years, to work closely with Glenn and Arnold (even published a couple of books with them) on a variety of rambles and literary activities. Dick and I spent a short time together at his home a few years before his death. I have a collector's item of sorts of Dick's A Climber's Guide to the Coastal Ranges of British Columbia (published in 1965 and the first of its kind on the West Coast, Arnold doing the sketches and Glenn the editorial mastermind). The lecture, though, was a sheer charmer of sorts to watch as the tag team of Glenn and Arnold unfolded and unpacked a significant season of Coastal Mountain mountaineering culture.

The snow was falling in thick flakes as the event ended, and the walk through the almost deserted village, replete with plenty of fresh snow, was a fit and fine way to end the packed night on west coast mountaineering. We might, in the future, invite Glenn and Dick to give a lecture at the Chilliwack Outdoor Club on the history of climbing in the Coastal Mountains---Glenn is the historian par excellence as is Arnold the painter.

Montani Semper Liberi
- Ron Dart



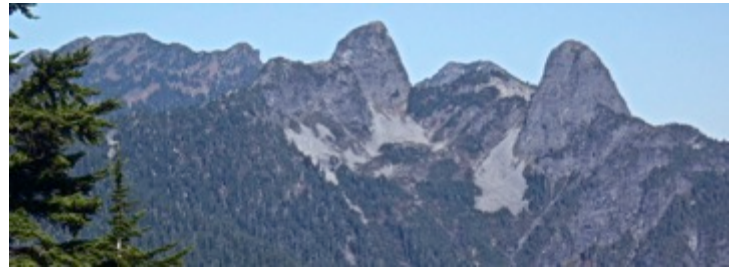
HOLLYBURN PEAK TRAIL - OCT. 28



Though only 7 km return there is good reason trail books suggest allowing just under 4 hours of hiking. The 3.5 km ascent to the top is an approximate 450 m climb. Our climb started from the Nordic ski area parking lot. A bit of a slippery climb along the power lines due to maintenance work, a recent snowfall now gone and rain. But, weather for our hike was perfect.

Soon arriving at the warming hut we left the power lines continuing our climb through forest, meadows and passing

small lakes. There are views on the way such as Grouse Mountain. Unfortunately haze and smog hampered our view of Vancouver and surrounding area.



But the final ascent over a rocky outcropping to the summit made for a most rewarding destination. There were crystal clear views of the mountains to the north, the lions being the most obvious. Here Allen C, Jerzy B, Linda I, Deborah L, Patrick R, Lynn M, Douglas H and I, of course enjoyed lunch and especially wandering around the summit savouring the views. For me the grunt to the top was worth the effort!!!!

Afterward back at the parking lot most of our group had other commitments requiring them to forgo coffee gathering. Still, half of us did enjoy West Vancouver coffee at C.C. Violin Patisserie & Café. "A place where your heart resides..."

- Dave Ortis

HANNEGAN PASS – OCT. 31

There were a total of 16 COCers on Hannegan Mt. this day, 5 of whom we ran into at the pass. The trail has a nice gentle grade, leading east through the Ruth Creek Valley. Within minutes we had an open view to our south of Mt. Sefrit and Nooksack Ridge. In the distance were the massive snowfields of Ruth Mt. When we passed the campsite the trail got steeper.



Once we were at the pass, we parked our gear and then climbed the hill to our right, towards Ruth Mt. where there were more open views of the peaks. The fall colors were fading and snow covered the knoll above the pass.



Since we'd already climbed 700m the majority were in favor of staying put, and not summiting. Back at the pass, the remainder of our group filtered in. Then Elly M & Tracey came up and John Mcl, Dave B & Stuart W came down (from the summit). It was a happy reunion. So we all went down together except for Elly & Tracey who continued on to the top.

Seven of us went to the quaint North Fork Brewery for dinner, while the rest headed back to a Halloween evening of trick-or-treaters.

Stats: 14.5 km / 770 m gain / 1570m high



Thanks for all who came out on this lovely day: Terry B, Vic D, Cal F, Sjourd & Annette K, Joe K, Geoff L, Judy P + Case & Joce T

CAMPBELL VALLEY, LANGLEY - NOV. 4

It was a cold hike for these weather sensitive souls; Allen C, Sue M. Eileen R, Sharon R and I. Our intention was to do a 'B' hike of 4 hours plus totalling about 14 km of the 29 km of trails in this regional park. In the park are several historical sites such as Langley Speedway and the Lochiel School House opened in the 1920s and I believe closed in the 50s.



Not a challenging hike for sure. Except the Campbell Downs Equestrian Centre is also located in the park. Yep, horse souvenirs were scattered at many locations. Riders and hikers were few. One interesting encounter was meeting Frank a fine looking equine. After chit chatting we left rider and horse. Soon after Frank came galloping by rider less followed by his owner who knew where Frank was heading, his favorite pasture.



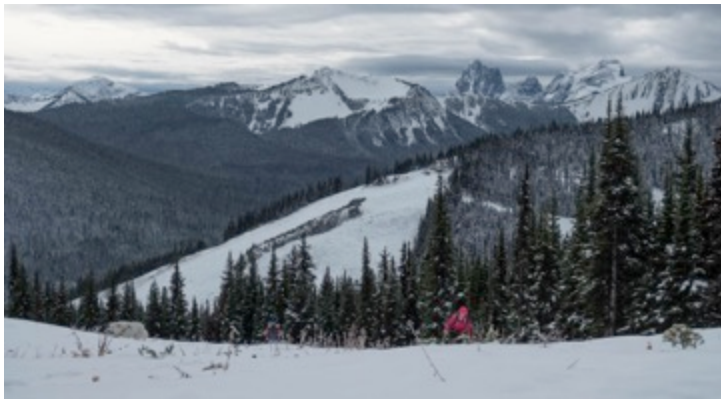
After about a three hour hike and lunch we opted for coffee at Clik Coffee Bistro in Abbotsford. No hesitation. Though close to cities Campbell Valley is a quiet park ideal for noise pollution free meditative strolling. Also nice trails to introduce young and old to the joys of hiking.



- Dave Ortis

POLAND LAKE – NOV. 11

A few COCer's joined another group to try a possible snowshoe to Poland trail, via the hiking route. When we arrived at Strawberry flats parking lot, there were 14 women, 3 dogs and 2 men (who were clearly the minority). Almost everyone, except 1, decided not to carry their snowshoes.



At the start the ground was just covered, with lots of rock showing out. As we started up the hill, naturally the snow did get deeper. It came to a point where some of us wished we had our snowshoes. The trail seemed endless. Around one, the last of the group made it to the beginning of the lake. Seven of us decided not to go further and have lunch. The other nine had lunch at the cabin.



After a long day, most of us headed to Manning Park Restaurant, to enjoy a great meal together - a memorable ending to a wonderful day.

Stats: 19 km / 730m gain / 1830m high

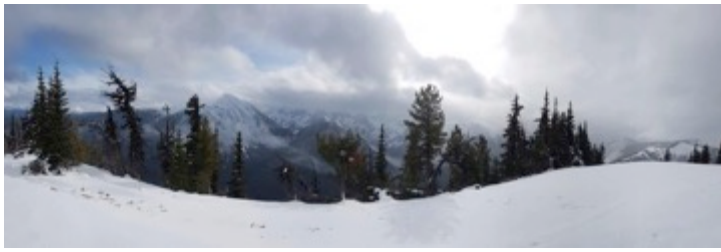
COC participants: Lori B, Cal & Regina F, Sonia L, Joce T (pics) Robbin Y + **Irene H**

SKYLINE 1 – NOV. 12

I love this trail. It is a long gradual climb, with long switchbacks, up through the steep forested ridge above Lightening Lakes and then it all opens up as you gain the ridge. The old burn area gives you wonderful views between the beautiful old dead trees, which are like art, with all their silver, black and white swirls. I can't stop taking photos of them.



Once you reach the burn the trail goes up and down along the ridge with views of Frosty, Hozomeen, the lakes way below, the ski hill, Three Brothers, and more. We brought our snowshoes along but did not really need them till we got ½ way along the ridge where the snow became deeper. The hinge on one of Don's snowshoes broke at this point and we could not fix it. He had already had them repaired once. (note: if you have MSR snowshoes they are guaranteed for life. So if they break just take them into Valhalla or Waddingtons and they will help you get them repaired or



give you new bindings). Luckily the trail was already broken for us by Jerry, Stuart and Eric, who were on their way back and had stopped for lunch just below the high point. The clouds continued to clear leaving blue sky and snowy peaks to enjoy as we reached the high point and our turn around spot. Another great trip up this wonderful trail!



Sue L, Al S. Don F.

Stats: 18 km, 960 m elevation climbed in total (according to our GPS)

KELLY MT. – NOV. 17

Ten of us trudged out in fresh powder, crossing the highway and bushwhacking up to the FSR. Yes, bushwhacking. There wasn't enough snow yet to cover all that small undergrowth. We did some fine teamwork, helping our fellow snowshoers over those fallen trees. Us long-legged females gracefully maneuvered our bodies over the logs. But the guys had some "issues" with those little pointy



pieces of wood sticking out (I won't repeat what they called them) and when Geoff's snowshoe snagged on one of them and Joe unhooked it too fast, he lost his balance and landed in the snow. He got up looking rather white.

There were still some logs on the overgrown FSR to scramble over but it was much easier going than that bit through the forest. Half way up we got to a south-facing viewpoint. This is where Cal challenged Joe and Claudine to a race, kicking up snow behind them with their snowshoes for photo effects. His next bit of play was getting Joe to look up the tree and then shaking it. Voila: heavy snowfall. Again looking rather white. From the viewpoint we continued on past the old radio tower and then into the forest. There we followed flagging tapes and the footpath left by two snowshoers ahead of us. The grade got steeper for about half an hour. Then it opened up more.



Half of us carried on past the rounded summit, dropping down about 50m to the more open part of the ridge. Views were limited due to the clouds but we could still see more of the ridge and peaks to the north and northwest. Then back to the summit for lunch. Cal & Joe had white faces on the group shot. Why? Because they did face plants. After about half an hour immobility was getting us too cold so up and at'em once again. Going down was so much faster.



Back at the viewpoint while we waited for the others, Cal got it in his head to make snow angels. He said to Judy,

“Kick some more snow on me!” When she lifted her leg to, she lost her balance and fell backwards in the snow. Good laughs. We got back to the vehicles, which were parked at the maintenance sheds west of Manning Park Lodge, by 3:00pm. It being a Friday, most of us had to get back sooner than later so we all headed back.

Stats: 10 km / 650m gain / 1930m high

Thanks for all who came out on this very fun day playing in the snow: Claudine A, Gary B, Terry B, Vic D, Cal F, Joe K, Geoff L, Judy P + Case & **Joce T**

NEEDLES RIDGE SNOWSHOE – NOV. 18



We were hoping to get to Flatiron. The weather report said it should be clearing by the afternoon, just like the weekend before which gave us such a pleasant trip. You can't trust the weather! It was a snowy trip up the Coquihalla and we saw vehicles in the ditch as usual on a snowy day. But we were sure it would get nicer. There was quite a bit of snow - up to our knees in spots, even with snowshoes. Even with 3 strong guys (and me), it was tough breaking trail up the steep bits.



Soon enough we were at the start of the ridge where there were a few level spots to catch our breath. It was snowing wet snow most of the way up and as we gained the ridge we could feel the temperature drop and the wind started. The higher we got the sharper the wind – literally the wind was sharp as it was blowing icy snow bits which stung our faces and blinded us if we looked up. We could no longer see Flat Iron at all as the clouds were rolling in. We had taken 3 hours to go 3 km at this point. The wind made it hard to even walk in a straight line – at least for me.

We went on, looking for a spot for lunch out of the wind. When we were almost at the pass we decided this was not fun anymore. So we went down to find shelter in the trees for lunch and decided to leave Flatiron for another day.



Sue L., Peter E, Don F, **Al S.**

Stats: 7.7 km, 760 m elevation,

HORSE TRAIL, CULTUS LAKE PP - NOV. 18

Considering the many rainy days the Fraser Valley had been experiencing we were especially fortunate to hike on a rain free day, even the sun shone, though briefly. Our hike on this 10 km long trail began at the Edmeston Road Gate. Rated an easy trail Sharon, Jan, Allen and I started hiking just before 10:00 on what felt was an enjoyable hike on a well maintained trail.

Enjoyable not because there were mountain vistas to stop and wonder. Enjoyable because for most of the trail the tree moss was an enjoyable view alone. My camera does not do justice.

Along the way we came to the Seven Sisters intersection. Two of us had never seen the sisters so we took the trail down the hill toward the spot. Alas, our scouting skills

hampered by too much city living, we lost the trail under a deep map of fallen leaves. Returning back to the Horse Trail we continued on until the 5 km mark at the Clear Creek Intersection. Opportunity to again venture another route to the sisters. No problem finding our way this time. Here we ate lunch and drafted a lady to take our group shot.





Afterward back to the gate completing about a 12 km trek then a short ride to Waves for enjoyable fellowship and refreshing liquids.

- Dave Ortis

ZOA SNOWSHOE- NOV. 22

This was a picture perfect day. Bulbous clouds, smooth drawn-out dark clouds and some high grey sheets of cloud added drama in a cobalt blue sky. This snowshoe is one of our winter favorites.



As we ascended the pipeline way, Coquihalla & Illal Mts. shone on the southern horizon behind us. It was a bit early in the season yet so the evergreens still were green and devoid of snow and there was still brush sticking through the snow



on the pipeline road. Once at the highest point on the road, passing the sign for the summer trail, we turned into the forest.

We had to be cautious for those tree wells. And even with our

snowshoes on we still did some post-holing, sometimes up to our crotches. At one point Cal just sank right up to his waist. But it didn't happen too often and out on the open ridge the wind had swept a lot of the loose snow away. Would we get a clear view of those close up peaks, or would they be hidden by cloud? Our curiosity was soon pleasantly put to rest when we saw Thar, Nak & Yak through the scattered alpine trees. Some mild ups & downs and we were at the viewpoint right across from the peaks. Below us lay frozen Falls Lake.



We found shelter from the strong wind close by and settled in for lunch. Our sweat quickly dried and all layers were on. Going down was the fun part, taking half the time it did to get up. And what a nice end to our outing: a rainbow just as we got to the truck. Thanks you guys for coming out on this glorious day and especially to Joe for doing most of the trail breaking.



Stats: 10 km / 895m gain / 1830m high

Participants: Cal F, Johnny G, Joe K + Case & **Joce T**

- Masthead: Thar, Nak & Yak Peaks by Joce T

CLUB INFORMATION

Notice to Trip Participants

It is understood that risk is inherent to some degree in all outdoor activities. Please ensure that you understand the risks involved and are prepared to accept them. As a participant, you are responsible for your own safety and equipment at all times. Trip organizers are not professional guides—they are simply club members who have volunteered their time for your enjoyment.

Inform the trip organizer of any medical conditions that he or she should be aware of in an emergency, for example: diabetes, asthma, and bee sting reactions. Ensure that your previous experience, ability and fitness level are adequate for the trip. Be sure that your equipment and clothing are adequate for the trip. Stay with the group. Wait for other group members frequently and at all route junctions. Tell the trip organizer if you must turn back. **Be safe and enjoy!**

Required Equipment

Trip organizers will be pleased to answer any questions regarding the required equipment for any outing. For more information, it is recommended that you visit one of the many websites that provide such information. Some recommended sites are: www.valhallapure.com (club sponsor), www.backpacker.com and www.mec.ca.

Safety first, last, and always! It is the responsibility of trip participants to be equipped appropriately. Plan for the **worst!**

The Ten Essentials

Before you hit any trail, no matter how easy, no matter how short, no matter how close to home, make sure your backpack is loaded with the ten essentials. When in the backcountry you are responsible for your own safety, and any one of these ten items may help to save your life. Carry them all and know how to use them.

1. Map
2. Compass
3. Extra clothing
4. Sunglasses and sunscreen
5. Headlamp/flashlight
6. First-aid supplies
7. Fire starter
8. Matches
9. Knife
10. Extra food and water

Equipment for Club Members' Use

2 canoes with accessories	1 stove
2 backpacks	1 water filter
1 two-person tent	1 pruning saw
1 three-person tent	1 dehydrator
1 projector and screen	13 ice axes
3 9 mm climbing ropes	4 pairs of crampons
4 climbing harnesses	8 assorted carabiners
2 avalanche transceivers	? avalanche probes

Note: All equipment must be returned in the same condition as borrowed or repaired appropriately.

Hike Grading System

Duration (hrs.)		Elevation Gain (m)		Difficulty	
A	0-4	1	10-500	a	Easy
B	4-7	2	500-1000	b	Moderate
C	7-10	3	1000-1500	c	Difficult
D	10+	4	1500+	d	Advanced

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