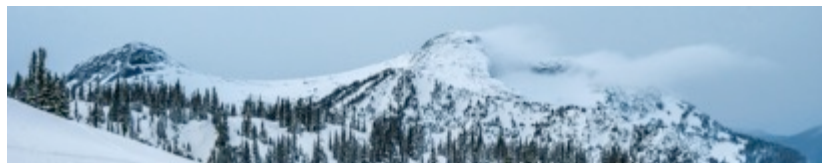


THE TRIPPER



Newsletter of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club

C/O 381 Cedar St., Cultus Lake B.C. V2R 4Z1

TRIP REPORT

ZOA SNOWSHOE – NOV. 28



The grunt up the pipeline road to Zoa feels daunting, physically and psychologically, so at the bottom of the slope we paused to put on snowshoes & summon mental strength. Despite a GPS track showing us on a different route to the steep grunt up the pipeline road, we

happily took the gentler route, easier physically and psychologically. Easier until we got to the top and faced the decision of losing elevation on a connecting road or a steep bushwhack on snowshoes to the pipeline road. Choosing the steep bushwhack, we pioneered a new harp-shaped winter route to Zoa. Once we reached the pipeline road we took

turns breaking trail, spotting markers & ribbons as we followed the GPS track through the forest up to alpine slopes & the summit of Zoa where we settled in the snow for lunch. For Christmas spirit, Cal brought out Santa hats and one elf hat for the group photo.



Out for the day were Carol A, Dave B, Gary B, Terry B, Cal F, Heather F, Johnny G, Sonia J, Joe K, Judy P, Katie V & **Heather B.**



SLESSE MEMORIAL TRAIL – DEC 4

Chilliwack Outdoor Club hike on the Mount Slesse Memorial trail Tuesday Dec 4th. There was another COC hike scheduled the next day with 12 members going up on the Coquihalla to the Needle Saddle. I thought we would be very lucky if we had 6 members go. We ended up with 22. It sure was a wonderful day. The trail was frozen so we had no mud and very little running water. The Alders were starting to sag on the trail but did not form too much of an obstacle. Long time member Kieth K cut quite a few branches



hindering the trail including one I bonked my head on. Gary B volunteered to be the sweep going up which I appreciated very much. Micro spikes were very beneficial.



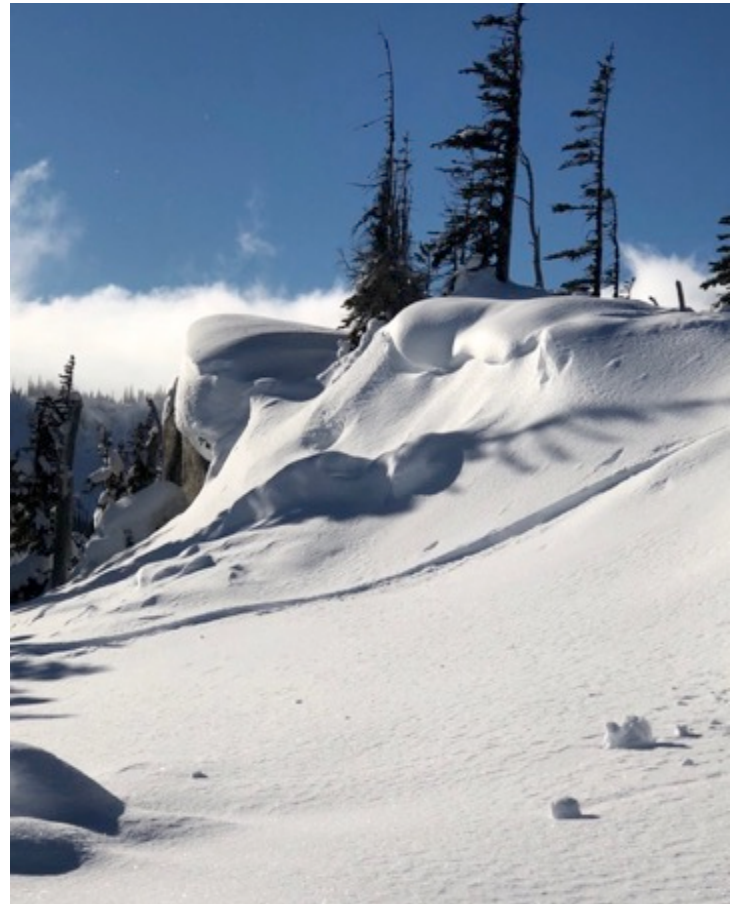
The top quarter of the trail had enough snow for Snow Shoes but all but one of us kept our micro spikes on. Two



steady and determined hikers made it to the top about 10 minutes before our return time. They had a very brief break before we took a quick group picture and started heading down not wanting to be on the trail in the dark. The top part of the MT had about 2 feet of very soft fluffy powder making for a quick fun filled sliding decent. Shortly before dark all four 4X4's and hikers were safely off the very rough logging road.

- Cal F

THE NEEDLE COL - DEC.5



Today 14 COC snowshoers braved the weather and snowshoed the Needle. The bottom of the trail was a challenge with little snow, all the roots and the frozen ice in the trail and lasting until we broke out of the trees. It was frigid along the ridge and in the col. Temperatures hover somewhere in the -10* to -15* and with the brutal winds it was much colder.

We dropped down a short way towards Flatiron and were heartened by the sunshine for our quick lunch before we headed down. Thanks to Johnny Grimm for sweeping on the way up as we tried to keep the group of 14 somewhat together. And thanks to John Mclellan who swept on the way down. John Campbell had a less than enjoyable trip down with one snowshoe as the other one broke and had to be carried. Never the less we all made it down without any

further mishaps. Too cold for a group shot. Ten of us stopped at the Blue Moose. A great day...



Thanks to David B, Ginger C, Jan S, Janice, John C, John L, John M, Johnny G, Joe K, Katie, Lori B, Lori Y + Wayne H



-by Judy P

WINDY JOE FIRE LOOKOUT – DEC. 12

A wonderful day for a magical hike. The trail was in excellent condition with only minor obstacles being a dozen fallen trees on the trail that we climbed over or under. The weather was mostly overcast, but the blue sky did make a few



appearances. We started the hike about 5 minutes from the Manning Park lodge where there are only a few centimeters of snow. Near the Fire lookout we were in knee-deep snow. We wore Snow Shoes all the way.



The fire lookout was pleasantly warm. After our break we opened the door and felt the chill of the cold. Our fingers quickly started freezing as we were putting our Snow Shoes back on. Everyone dispersed from the Lookout very quickly.

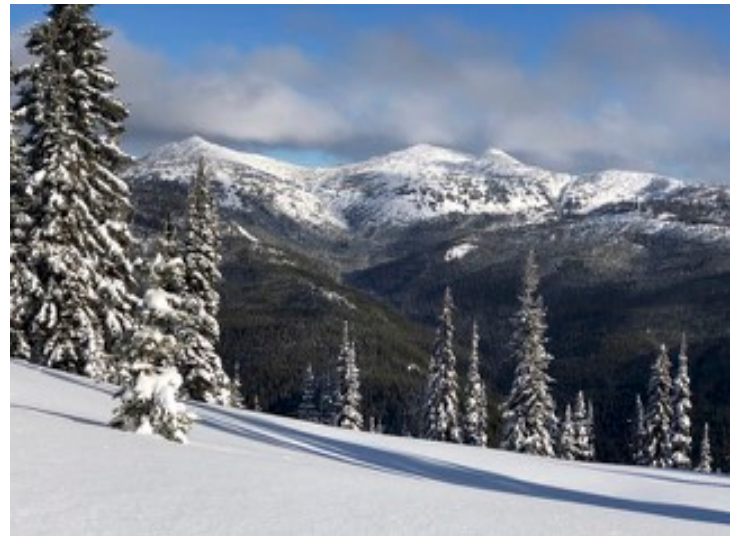


After ten minutes of heading down the hill we were all warm again and the jacket zippers started opening up. Twenty minutes later the headlamps started coming out. Dawn had wrapped a Christmas light string around her body and Johnny had a Red light attached to his nose just like Rudolph would. With the bright red nose of Johnny and the Christmas lights of Dawn we had lots of lights to lead us back to our vehicles. Hiking on a very safe trail, at night with a bit of falling snow is magical. - **Cal F**

MT KELLY-DEC 15



Twelve of us snowshoed Mt. Kelly in Manning Park today. A gorgeous blue-sky day. Cal had a group of 6 that started out ahead of us and broke trail for 2/3 of the way before we caught up and put our new young snowshoer up at the front.



The snow was fresh and soft, the sky blue, it was a perfect day to be out. We stopped often to keep the group together. Everyone was in good spirits and enjoying the fine day. We got to the end, took photos and some of us snowshoed up the hill to have lunch on top. With Cal's group, we had a crowd up there. Our group stopped at the Blue Moose, always a great way to end the day. Our group: Allana W., Allen C., Christopher M-S., David B., Jim A., Jocelyn T., John La., Johnny G., Lori Y., Margaret T., Terry B. Great day everyone! - **Judy P**

ZOA SUNSET SNOWSHOE – DEC. 22

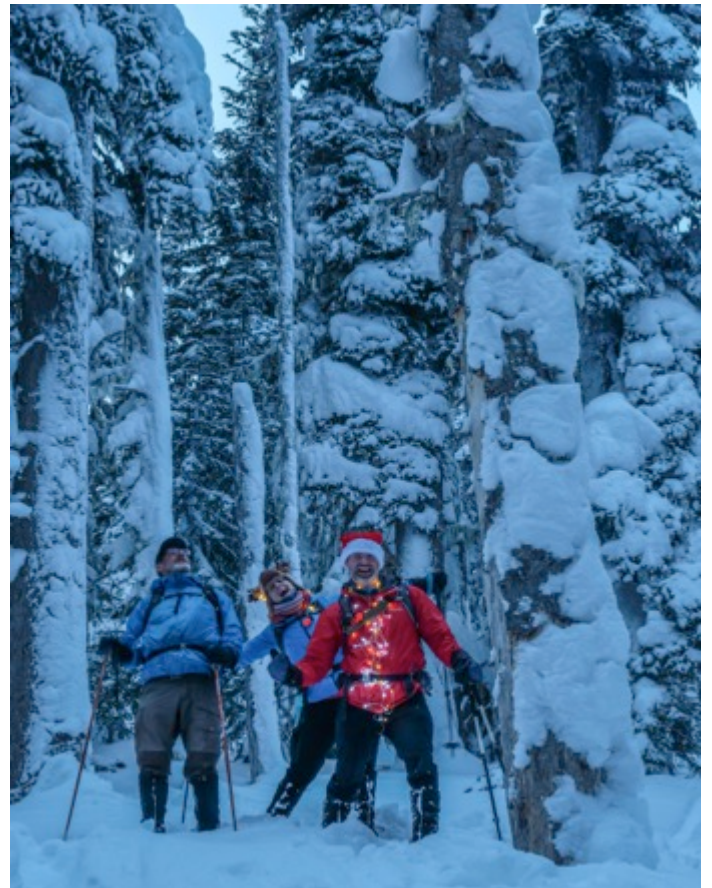
The larger group that had signed up for this day shrunk down to 4 when news got out that there was a size one avalanche on the second summit of Zoa just two days prior. This was caused by a skier and was not on the same route that we take. This I learned after having cancelled and then reversed the cancellation. So George, who's fairly new to the club, was surprised when he showed up at Cottonwood Mall. He asked, "Where is everyone?" But it proved to be a wonderful day. We merged with Dawn's group of 4 near the summit and stuck together after that.



At 12:00 noon we set out. The number of vehicles parked there was encouraging. It was snowing and the pipeline had bits of brush protruding from the snow layer. At the highest point and following Dawn's groups' footsteps, we turned west into the Christmas tree forest. Evergreen branches were laden with fresh puffy snow. Joachim and George had never done Zoa before. This was an especially special treat for them. As we trudged into the sub-alpines, Thar's pointy peak came into view to our left, through scattered trees. The soft winter sun made a pale yellow hole in the high clouds.



Soon we merged with Dawn, Natasha, Mark & his 9 year old son, Riley for the final leg to the first summit. Thar, Nak & Yak were up close and personal. Falls Lake lay immediately below us. It was 3:00 and the peaks were slightly covered with cloud. To our south, above Illal & Coquihalla Mts. the sky was blue. Now was the time for goodies and play. Dawn pulled out her Christmas light necklaces. Natasha offered us her Christmas cookies as I did with my Dutch "kruidnoten" and Mark put on his Santa Claus outfit. By 4:00 the 3 peaks were clear and the sky to the south was changing colors.



Our excitement boosted. Going down was amazing. To the north were the now exposed peaks of Vicuna & Guanaco. The wind was creating cornices on Thar, Nak & Yak, curling



over the peaks. It was quite a sight. As it was getting darker the Christmas light necklaces grew brighter. We never did see that full moon but it never got really dark with all the ambient light. None of us used our head-lights. By 5:00pm were back at the car. The 4 of us had dinner at the Blue Moose.

Stats: 11 km / 700m gain / 1835m high

Thanks to you die-hards for coming out: Joachim B, George D + Case & **Joce T** and to Dawn and her friends for joining forces with us in the spirit of Christmas.

VEDDER MT. – DEC. 27

It was posted as a blue sky, sunset hike on Vedder Mt. Well the skies weren't blue and there was no visible sunset, but yesterday 10 of us enjoyed hiking on the mt. We began from the Timmermans property following a steepish trail up to the old road. We hiked to Helgi's farm



and then took a right turn up to the look out. We encountered a bit of snow on the way to the look out.



At the lookout, Case, the firebug started a small fire to warm us. We came down with headlamps, hiking in the dark seems to be a new theme for some of the COC.



We had a good workout doing 16.3 km. After the hike, Jocelyn had a huge pot of meatball & vegetable soup for us and Carol supplied the biscuits. A generous delicious end to a fun day.

Thanks to Allen C, Carol A., Case T., Christine C., Grant A., Helen T., Jocelyn T., Joe K., Margaret T.,--



- Judy P

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

CLUB CONTACTS

Position	Name	E-mail
President + FMCBC Rep	Ken Orr 604-858-0813	orrke@shaw.ca
Vice President	Grant Acheson	gacheson@universe.com
Secretary Presentations & speakers	Harry Waldron Ray Daws	harry.waldron@hotmail.com raydio@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Irene Hofler 604-824-6741	ihofler@telus.net
Directors:		
	Manfred Harder	mcharder75@gmail.com
	Ken Hurley 604-792-9029	kwhurley@gmail.com
	Margaret Tra	Margaret_tranah@hotmail.com
	Pat Ramsden	patrickr@shaw.ca
	Gary Baker 604-858-4928	garybaker@shaw.ca
Membership Secretary	Tim & Bernie Yochim	timothyochim@gmail.com
Secretary:	Harry Waldron	harrywaldron@hotmail.com
Club Trip Email	For trips and announcements to be forwarded to all members:	chilliwackoutdoorclub@googlegroups.com Note: also you can post in Facebook: Chilliwack Outdoor Club Group
Librarian	Irene Hofler	ihofler@telus.net
Newsletter Pub. 604-854-6267	Jocelyn Timmermans	jocelyntimmermans@hotmail.com
Website	Amanda Rallings	Amanda_rallings@Hotmail.com
Vedder Mt Trail Ass'n	Gary Baker 604-858-4928	garybaker@shaw.ca
Refreshments	Helen Turner + Lori Bodkin	hturner59@gmail.com firechick@telus.net