

Newsletter of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club

## TRIP REPORTS

## DRY GULCH LOOKOUT SS HIKE- FEB. 1

Another good day was had on the snow and in the forest. The hike starts at the former tollbooth restroom area and with finding a way to get over and down the piles of snow that are built up as the parking area is cleared. This time on first view it looked more challenging than usual. Elaine, the 'scout' she is, found a manageable way that led down to the 2-metrehigh animal barrier fence that we had to get over, easy if it has been completely buried by snow, which was not the case this day. We quickly found a point we could climb over then followed the fence line southward through deep snow toward a small lake hidden from sight in the thick forest. Once we found it we turned eastward then down a steep embankment towards the old Kettle Valley Railway grade and the Coquahalla River. Once there the object was to find a way across the river and bushwhack up to the pipeline right of way and follow it further south to the Dry Gulch Lookout point. No crossing point materialized, and it became obvious





that we were now dropping lower into the upper Coquihalla Canyon. This hike would likely become a stroll, a journey not a specific destination. As we walked on, we passed under slopes that fit the definition of prime avalanche zones. I had checked the avalanche report (rating low). Continuing downward we reached an of the abandoned KVR tunnels. The entrance was open for 15-25m. Many of the group scrambled in. It had the makings of a great photo opportunity.

Note: Cal has posted an 'album' of photos from this hike to the Club's Public Facebook page.

This seemed to be a good place to head back. It was early so we decided to hike up to the first of the Coquahalla Lakes where we followed a snow bridge across the river, which at this point is more like a small creek. Once across we headed south along the east bank of the river. When the terrain forced us virtually into the river, we found a clearing (Irene spotted it) and followed it. Soon we were on the Pipeline right of way. I don't remember it being this wide, more like a four-



lane highway than a narrow right of way. Off we went south! It followed the brim of the river canyon and from some spots we could look down toward the track we had made along the KVR earlier along the west side of the river.

The right of way had some substantial up and downs.... on we went until Cal spotted an opening in the trees that provided a good view of the Coquahalla Highway Bridge over the so-called Dry Gulch. It's not really dry, the drainage water flows under the thick bolder debris that has accumulated in the deep gulch ravine.

A short stop lunch stop, then back we went. Some of the steep inclines and deep powdery snow made for some snow bounding and a few face plants.

Back at the snow bridge we crossed the river and followed the animal fence back to where we had crossed it earlier in the morning. It was indeed, another good day together.

Along for the day were: Cal F., Irene I., Denise D., Don F., Monique, Lorenz, Sonia, Sue A., Ingrid, Wayne H., Mark S., Leah, Tracy G., Iraq, Christine C. by Gary B.

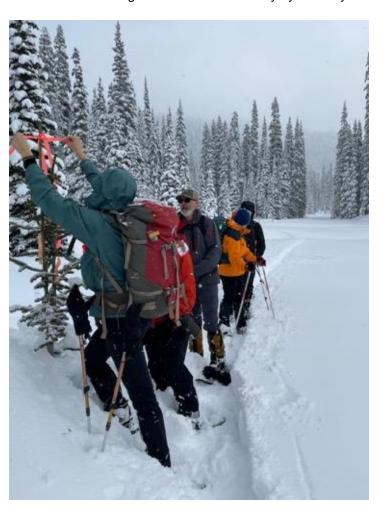
## THE POLAND LAKE TRILOGY+

Let's start with the '+'. It was a shock and very disappointing when on reading the 'not so fine print' that the Manning Park Resort had implemented new regulations that limited how and where we could, as snowshoers, traverse the ski hill to access some of our favorite winter hiking areas. In particular, their new regulations prevented access to the Gibson Meadows and the access we used for over 15yrs to get to Poland Lake. As reported in the January Tripper we did a snowshoe (SS) hike to check out the new route developed by the Resort. We had a lot of fun, but it didn't go well. It was pure serendipity that I had the opportunity to meet the Resort Manager (Vern Schram) in the parking area as I awaited my

ride home. We had a very pleasant and constructive discussion that paved the way for the COC to be granted permission once again to hike up the Blue Chair Wagon Wheel Ski Run to access the Meadows.

### THE RECON THE FIRST TRILOGY): FEB. 3

The Recon team consisted of Carol A., Irene H. Don F., Lorenz B., Johnny G., Colin F. and me. The temperatures were in the -5C to the + 4C range, very mild. The skies were overcast, with sunny periods. It was a very pleasant day to go visit an old friend, the club's favourite route to Poland Lake! We traversed up the groomed ski run to the base of the Wagon Wheel Trail (a 100m vertical climb) where we made the turn to head into the Meadows. We knew that we would need to break trail from there until we reached the upper trail into the lake and likely all the way to the lake. We were right. Depending on whether we were in the forest or out on the open meadows we encounter fresh snow from 20-40cm in depth which made for slow going. A side note: Considering all the times we have taken this route I was unable to find or procure a single printed map or GPS track for this route. No big deal (right Cal...) we had done it so many times we know where we were along the entire route virtually by memory.



I thought it was important that we do a 'Recon' and set a track before leading a large contingent of club members



along this route. Experience has taught us that numerous snow bridges form over the creeks flowing from meadow to meadow and through the meadows. As expected, these creeks had changed course in several locations. Safely around and across them we set our sights on a small tree in the distance bearing flagging tape. When we reached the tree, we added lots of new tape something we do every year. This tree that has been our flag bearer for as long as we have been using this route.

At the marker the route turns into the forest and climbs approximately 150m up to the 'official' Poland Lake trail. The climb and direction is really by 'feel", just keep climbing, don't drift too far to the left as there is a deep ravine, don't drift to the right as there is another ravine there. Keep the grade manageable by doing lots of switchbacks. We got it right as we reached the trail about 50m from where I had hoped we would.

Once on the trail it is about 400m to the lake. We decided not to cross the lake, let the next group have the honor of making the first fresh trail across it to the cabin. Sitting at the edge of the lake we enjoyed a quick lunch and headed back.

Part of the plan was to follow the 'official' trail back to the top of the Horseshoe ski run (breaking trail all the way). I really dislike going back via this route as it involves an additional 100m of climbing and it seem to go on forever. Once back on the ski hill we intended to find and follow the new access trails the Resort had built for SS'er to reach the 'official' upper trail. We hadn't gone far when we saw flagging (lots of it) leading from the ski run into the forest in the general direction to go down to the Resort base area. Off we went! The snow was deep, great for bounding in glee. Carol was out front calling for others to take the lead, to enjoy the sight of seeing untracked snow welcoming us onward, downward. Then the flagging suddenly stopped. Oh, no, we fanned out looking for flagging tape...nothing. Better later than never we checked our GPS devices only to discover that we were heading well away from the ski hill, actually heading down towards the

meadows. Turning towards the ski hill was not an option as we knew there was a deep ravine in the way. So we adjusted our course, continued down through what was an enchanting forest experience, intersected the trail we had set from the ski hill to the meadows and followed it back to the parking area.

It was a fun, successful day..... mission accomplished.

# TRILOGY PART TWO: GIBSON MEADOWS/POLAND LAKE SS HIKE: TUESDAY FEB. 8

Another mild day, the temperatures were in the –5C to the + 4C range, very mild; skies overcast with sunny periods. The participants were: Cal F., Sheryl H., Denise D., Wayne H., Tim Y., Xiaoling Su, Iraj B., Christine C., Colin F., Fred H., Sue A., Jocelyn T (pics)., Ingrid., Irene H., Lorenz B.

As the arrangements that were made with the Resort permitted us (on weekdays) to drive directly up to the ski hill we arrived to a virtually empty parking lot. Lorenz volunteered to go into the Visitor Centre to pick up our 'free' permits to cross the ski area, only to be told free meant \$ 70 (\$10 apiece). The smooth negotiator he is, that issue was quickly sorted out. I was concerned about timing and was somewhat apprehensive that we didn't start up the mountain until 10:10AM, a late start!



My plan was to really take it easy climbing up to the base of the Wagon Wheel Trail, this can be a bit of a tough climb for some, then into the forest we went. The trail set the previous Thursday has only a few centimetres of fresh snow on it making for easy going. We made VERY good time to the lake and through the meadows to the start of the climb through the forest up to the Summer Poland Lake trail. With a set trail this climb seemed almost easy. The multiple switchbacks were greatly appreciated. Once on the upper trail we quickly reached the lake and set a NEW fresh trail across the lake to the campground cabin. We had a somewhat leisurely (not too leisurely) lunch including the required climb onto the cabin roof for the obligator group photo.

As the 'recon' group had returned via the upper trail we had deep pristine powder snow to bound through going down to the meadows. Great fun, even for an old guy with wonky knees.



Cal was up to his usual, wonderful playfulness. The 'Recon' group had been really concerned about hidden snow bridges over the creeks that meandered through the meadows. On one area the decision had been made to take a very wide berth around what looked like a depression in the snow over a creek. On the way up our group followed this path. It did seem a big detour to get around the suspicious depression, Cal didn't seem to think the detour was necessary and suggested to some of the group to cut directly across the 50m gap. I was very suspect and continued on the original path. I detected an air of mischief when Cal urged Fred to go first. I saw Fred drop out of sight and heard a faint splash along with a lot of laughter. Nothing that a pair of dry socks couldn't remedy.



We were back at the cars shortly after 3pm. I was pleased, less than 5hours, round trip. It went well. Thanks to everyone who came along. By **Gary B** 

# TRILOGY PART THREE: GIBSON MEADOWS/POLAND LAKE SS HIKE: SAT. FEB. 12

I didn't sleep well Friday night; I was very anxious about the arrangements needed for this day to go off as planned. The main issue was the new restrictions at the mountain preventing SS'er from using the ski hill parking lot; we would have to take the Resort shuttle from either the Main Lodge or from the Strawberry Flats parking area. I elected that we get the bus from the Lodge. Again, being what turned out to be overly concerned about time constraints the departure time was 6:30AM. Hwy # 3 was it's now awful mess, but there was no traffic and no construction delays. All the cars arrived with a good 15+minutes to spare to catch the 8:30AM bus up to the ski hill. I think we were the only folks to board the bus at the Lodge, some back country skiers did get on at the Flats. The comradery on the bus added a fun dimension to the outing. Oh, and the weather once again was cooperating. mild temperatures, broken clouds with sunny periods throughout the whole day.



When we arrived at the hill the energy to hit the trail was off the charts. I headed into the Visitor Centre to pick up the 'free' passes and they had them all stamped and ready for us...WOW! We were on the trail by 9:10AM. Same drill as on

the Tuesday (Feb 8<sup>th</sup> outing), take our time climbing up the Blue Chair groomed trail to the turn off into the meadows. There had been some new snow, but it didn't slow us down much. We reached the ribboned tree in good time. For me this was the third climb up to the upper trail in 10 days, it seemed shorter and easier this time. Across the lake we went to find a sunny spot to enjoy our lunch and then again climb onto the roof for the group photo.

This group didn't have the pristine paths of deep powder snow to bound down through, as the first group had obliterated most of the obvious pathways down; so we mostly stuck to the now completely packed trail on the way down to the meadows.

We were back at the parking area shortly after 2pm and took the 3pm shuttle back to the Main Lodge. We were not alone as the bus filled up with staff and a few tired skiers. We did stop at Strawbery Flat to pick up additional passengers. I'm



not sure exactly what happened, all I can recall is seeing folks with looks of disappointment walking back towards the warming hut.

Club members and guests on this hike were: Carilyn H., Margaret T., Lori B., Linda, Darcy G., Annette, Judy P., Monique S., Linda I., Wayne, Peter E., George D., Paul L., David B. & Val, Shannon C., & Rob H.

It was a VERY good day!

By Gary Baker

## ZOA MT - FEB. 5

Well we sure made a mess of things. Ahh – that snow was perfect; fresh and fluffy and fun. Yes, we did feel a bit guilty, messing up that perfectly smooth blanket of white, but not guilty enough to stop us from spreading out and doing the relaxing moonwalk down on virgin powder while cute little snowballs rolled down the slope ahead of us.



Fourteen snowshoers started out from the Coquihalla Hwy at around 10:30am. As expected on this Saturday, a snowshoe trail was already set. The first part of the pipeline slope was the steepest. Up we trudged in single file. Thanks to Fred for

being in front the whole time and paving the way for us. We regrouped at the highest point of the pipeline, which is the halfway point. From there we turned left into the forest.

Two hikers turned back shortly after our turn while the rest of us went from forest to meadows and ridge. The triplets: Yak, Nak & Thar remained hidden in cloud, except for Yak's pointed peak peeking out now and then. A broad cornice had formed by the sub-summit, which was our destination. It came in handy for two things: shelter from the wind and playing the jump-and-slide-down-the-cornice game.



It was during our descent on the ridge that the clouds began to lift, and the triplets were exposed. Cal led us to the right of the ridge, where a whacky game of racing-down-the-powderslope-in-snowshoes ensued. Sheri & Sonia ended up in a



tangled heap halfway down and Fred fell and rose looking like a snowman.

Once in the forest, we angled to the southeast and ended up coming out about halfway down the pipeline road. Now the cloud had closed in once again. By 4:00pm we were back at the vehicles. Cal was handing out juice boxes and chip packs, left-overs from Monday night's meeting. What a good idea! Stats: 9 km / 670m gain / 1842m high

Along for this fun day were; Lori B, Grete, Lorenz B, Denise D, Ingrid F, Fred H, Irene H, Sonia J, Sheri K, Michelle K, Mark S, Rose S, Joce T (report + pics) + Cal F

#### VEDDER MT – FEB. 6



We met at the Vedder Park parking lot around 8:30am and carpooled to the trailhead, parked on the main service road and walked up 500 meters to the summit.



The trail was mostly dry at the beginning, then before the pond the trail got icy with some snow. We put the spikes on to be safe. At the first lookout facing west Fraser Valley we took a short break then continued to the boardwalk where a new chain was rigged on the rock wall, then climbed two roped sections before reaching the ridge with beautiful view of the valley. In a short distance we reached the top of the ridge, facing south with a clear view of Mount Baker and the valley



After 25 min. break in beautiful sun, we left the ridge at 11:25am and did a descend steady back to the cars, arriving at 1:20pm. Weather: Beautiful sunny but cool day.

Participants: Johnny, Audrey, Jim, Don, Iraj / 4 hours

# **PUMP PEAK SUNSET, AT SEYMOUR -FEB 11**

7.6kms and 494m elevation gain. It feels like a much longer hike and much more elevation gain due to so many steep ups and downs. Some of the UPS are seriously UP. Same with some of the DOWNS.

I love night hiking and dearly thank Cal Francis of the COC -Chilliwack Outdoor Club, for organizing and leading this hike.

There was 11 of us and we met in the lodge on Mt Seymour ski resort. When we were all together and organized, we set off around the parking lot to the trailhead, where we all put on our microspikes. Snowshoes are rarely needed on this trail because it is so heavily trafficked, and the trail is so well packed down. However, due to all the traffic it gets sugar snow conditions so the longer the spikes the better. I got to try my new Hillsound Trail Crampons that have quite long spikes, but the spikes are still linked by chain instead of Ice Crampons that have even longer spikes but are less flexible and have two prongs sticking out the front that can get awkward in normal trail use. I have these but left them at home.



We started hiking at 2:41pm which turned out to be quite a bit early, so we went at a moderate pace, so we didn't have to spend too much time at the summit in the cold wind, which is always there. It was quite warm and most of us were just in shirtsleeves. This is a beautiful hike with many spectacular mountain views in all directions, plus views of the Fraser Valley, Vancouver and the harbour and all the way to Vancouver Island. You could even see all the way south to Mt Rainier.

I found myself out front for some unknown reason and as I was trudging up the fairly steep trail there was a track going straight up the bank so I asked Cal if I should go up there. I couldn't understand his answer, being half deaf, so I



assumed he said yes ( ) and up I went. It was STEEP

and it was fun. I was surprised that everyone else followed me because I had no idea where I was going. We ended up getting to a nice viewpoint looking over English Bay and all the anchored freighters waiting their turn to enter the harbour and load or unload cargo. From there we continued on with me leading 10 other people to whatever fate awaited us. I was hoping that we would eventually get back onto the main trail and not over a cliff like a bunch of Lemmings. After some more very steep climbs we finally emerged onto the main trail and I gave myself a sigh of relief for not killing everyone or leading them into a Search and Rescue situation.

Shortly after we got onto the main trail we went up another, of the many, very steep sections to a Lookout where we regrouped and waited for one of the others who had stopped to put on her Crampons.

This lookout was just more of the same spectacular scenery and once regrouped we headed out again and thankfully Cal was in the lead. This UP and DOWN continued relentlessly until we got fairly near the area surrounding Pump Peak where it got stupid steep, but we, or should I say I, managed to survive it. Along the way we were passing a spot where there was a big bump and a cornice. CAL. Obviously he sees silliness to be had. He and Brian climbed up to the top of it, jumped off and did a bum slide down the side of the bump. They went on either side of Jocelyn where Brian stopped at the trail but Cal continued on down the slope. WAAY down the slope. Fortunately, I got it on video. I guess it's contagious because Denise and Michelle decided to do it too. These people need to act a little more mature.



This was before we broke over the top to the view of Pump Peak and its Mt Everest steep climb up the side to the peak. There is a much easier way to the summit by going around the base of the peak, but Cal ordered us up the steep part. Sometimes I wonder about his wish for us to die. This is so steep that they have cut steps into the snow to cut down on the calls to Search and Rescue for people falling down the



slope. Eventually, we all made it to the top at 4:33pm - alive and immediately all of us had to put on our coats due to the freezing cold wind. We all found a place to sit and wait for the sun to set at 5:26pm. Most of us had something to eat and drink while others roamed around the summit soaking in the spectacular scenery. Two interesting things happened there. The first one was a young woman showed up in SHORTS !!! What?!? She even stood around for a while before she finally relented and put on a pair of warm pants. It would be nice to have an internal furnace like that. The second one was CAL. Of course. Who else? Suddenly there was this huge uproar from behind where we were sitting and especially from these two young, beautiful women, who became Cal groupies. Cal always likes to get a picture of himself doing a jump on the summit. He was standing on a rock and did his jump thing but ended up slipping and falling on his back and sliding all the way to the bottom of the hill. It was a Very long way down. (Picture of the site below). I'm still angry at him for not telling me he was going to do this spectacular move so that I could get a video of him doing it. There is no doubt in my mind that he did it on purpose just to impress those two women.

Eventually, the sun got to setting itself and a zillion photos were taken because the weather gave us a superb sunset. We are so blessed to live in this fabulous area. Once it was fully set, we started preparing ourselves with headlights for the trip down. Cal ordered us down that super steep slope we climbed up, which I thought was seriously mean of him, but like a good little boy, down I went, and a few others followed. Some rebellious types ignored his orders and went the longer but safer route around the base. Again, nobody died - to the immense disappointment of Cal.

We regrouped at the bottom of the hill and then started our trek down. We got to the section that was the steepest part of the whole hike. I looked down and said out loud, "there is no way we came up that!". I was assured that we had, so I had to suck it up and head down. Somehow I made it.



The darker it got the more fun I had. I just love hiking at night. It has a peacefulness to it and a special kind of beauty. The hike down was quite uneventful in spite of some of the steep ups and downs. Maybe it was eventful after all, because most of the steep Downs required Cal and a couple of the ladies to bumslide down them. Again, they should start acting a bit more mature.

We eventually got back to the Lodge and tried to get into the patio, but they didn't have enough room for all of us, so we decided to go to the A&W at the bottom of Mt Seymour Road. We all sat outside and enjoyed each other's company for a while longer before we headed home and waited for the next adventure.

Along were: Herb C, Denise D, Brian F, Bridgette G, Irene H, Michelle K, Mark S, Maureen S, Joce T (pics) Thanks again **Cal** for organizing and leading this trip. By **Don T** 

#### VEDDER CYCLE - Feb. 11



We met at the Vedder Park at 9am and started westbound towards railroad bridge then to Keith Wilson bridge. The long section of the trail past the railroad bridge was recently repaired due to the flood damage. Once we were in the open going towards Keith Wilson Bridge it got windy, we crossed

the road and the bridge then under the bridge towards the Yarrow Village.

Decided to stop at the local coffee shop in Yarrow for 20min. then back on the trail eastbound towards the Vedder bridge. We noticed Street Creek was closed for repairs so we took an alternative trail. We also went over the newly built bridge before the quarry on the south side where the road and the trail were washed out.

We arrived at the Vedder Park around 12:30.



Feb. 11, 2022 / Distance: 22km

Participants: David, Danielle, Minna, Don, Suki and Iraj

Weather: Sunny day 6C

By Iraj F

## KELLY MT. - FEB. 15

The peaks were playing hike-and-go-seek with us. But at the summit they stuck to hiding. Nevertheless, it was another day well spent in the great outdoors.

We are now allowed to park inside the open gates at the Allison Pass highway maintenance buildings in Manning Park. We crossed the highway at 10:00ish, put on our snowshoes and set off on a trail well trampled, with just 4 cm of fresh snow on it. In about 20 minutes we were on the FSR where we turned left, following it past a look out, past the old radio tower and then onto the steepest part of the route, winding up through forest where branches were draped with decorative pale green Witch's Beard.

About ¾ up we emerged onto the open meadows with a lovely view of the First, Third & Fourth Bros. to the east. Then we turned from north bound to west bound on another open slope which in short order, got us to the treed summit. Johnny suggested staying put there because dropping about 30m down to the ridge wouldn't give us any views because of



the cloud cover. I had too much faith in the forecast and should've listened to him. The view did not clear on the cold ridge where we huddled together for lunch in the shelter of a large evergreen.



The short steep grunt back up to the summit after lunch was not so unwelcome, as it worked well in getting us warmed up again. Back at the lookout we were now rewarded with a better view of the peaks to our southeast, Mt. Frosty dominating the horizon. By 3:00pm we were back at our vehicles. Stats: 9.3 km / 686m gain / 1974m high



Along were: Carol A, Terry B, Lorenz B, Denise D, Iraj F, Johnny G, Fred H, Charlotte H, Irene H, Jan S + Joce T

### FAT DOG SS HIKE - MARCH 1

This hike has been on my re-do list for several years as it was one of my favourite go to destinations. I had scheduled it originally for Tuesday, February 22 thinking the route should be well compacted by the weekend crowds. But, with forecasted temperatures in the –20C range and winds gusting to 25-30kph, based on past experiences there was no way I intended to go back there in those conditions. Thus, the postponement to the March 1st.

However, the weather conspired against us again. Between mid-Sunday (Feb. 27) and the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup>, over 50cm of snow had fallen and it wasn't all that powdery.

At the meet up site (Chilliwack Mall) it was raining hard (typical) and by the time we reached Hope it was a full-on monsoon. By Sunshine Village we could see patches of blue sky in the distance and shortly thereafter the rain had stopped.... another welcoming Manning Park day beckoned.

Colin was the first to reach the Cambie Creek/Fat Dog parking lot to find it buried, no way his little station wagon was fit to tackle that mountain of snow. Fortunately, a Highway's frontend loader was there and cleared a pathway into the lot. The path was just wide enough to turn around in when it was time to leave.



The trail was buried, but we could make out a faint depression where the weekend hikers had been. This was going to be a tough slog all the way to the summit. Once on the Fat Dog trail there was no indication that anyone had been up over the weekend, darn...up we went slowly fighting for every step. I was reminded of several sayings we have in the crazy cycling sport I do.... RFM (Relentless Forward Motion) and EFI (Every F.....g Inch). The latter is usually reserved for steep hills. Progress was painfully slow, the 5km up to the area we call the 'Landing' a flattish, sparsely treed area, took over 3hrs. It was lunch time, but we pushed on. An hour later we reached the first edge of the alpine meadows

and said, "Enough"! Time for lunch. As we stomped out an area to flop down for lunch, we had a good laugh as Judy first attempted to step out of the trail, remember the snow was over knee deep. She couldn't lift her leg and snowshoe high enough to get out of the trail.

We were still a good hour, perhaps even more from the summit, and in all likelihood, with the low clouds that had blown in the views would be marginal at best. So what had been set out to be a destination hike had become a journey. This was not the first time COC groups stopped where we did to come back another day, it most likely will not be the last. In all we hiked 14km with just under 600m of elevation gain, a full day.



But something wasn't adding up. Even without checking the GPS I know we were still a good 1.5-2km from the summit, and we had already done 7km. The guide books I referenced said the Fat Dog route is approximately 15km. In reality it is more like 18+ km from the parking lot to the summit when the section of the Cambie Creek Loop from the parking lots to the start of the Fat Dog Trail is included in the total distance. Now I know why this hike always seemed so long.

The team included: Frank B., Judy P., Fred H., Lori Young, Janice H., Mark S., Colin F., and me (**Gary Baker**). It was another fun day in the mountains.

#### **EDELWEISS SWISS VILLAGE**

There is no doubt that in the origins and development of mountaineering and mountain culture in Western Canada, the Swiss Guides were front and center. The fact that much of their work was divided between Lake Louise and Rogers Pass meant Golden/BC became their place of residence. The CPR brought a few Swiss Guides to Canada after a fatal death in 1896, and as more and more became keen on mountaineering and mountain treks, the CPR realized more Swiss Guides were desperately needed to fulfill a growing



interest and need. So, between 1910-1912 the CPR built a variety of chalets on an upper ridge in Golden to provide homes for the Swiss Guides and their growing families. The forested area on the hillside came to be known as Edelweiss Swiss Village.

I have been fortunate over the years to spend time at Edelweiss Village on various mountaineering treks in the area. Sadly so, this heritage site and decades long centre of Canadian mountaineering is now, potentially, being sold. If this does occur (hopefully it will not), a significant part of Canadian and Canadian mountaineering history will disappear---Canada and Golden would be the lesser for it.



Gratefully so, Dr. Ilona Spaar and Dr. Johann Roduit (both from Switzerland, Roduit lives in Abbotsford. Spaar in Vancouver) have taken leadership in preservina Edelweiss Swiss Village from being sold and potentially demolished their Swiss-Canadian line and lineage

positions them well for such a commitment. I was fortunate to live in Switzerland from 1972-1974 and have a decided fondness and affinity with, being Canadian, the Swiss-Canadian love of the mountains and mountain culture, Edelweiss Swiss Village but a portal into the larger cathedral of Swiss-Canadian mountain life.

The recent publication of Edward Feuz Jr.: A Story of Enchantment (2021) by D.L. Stephen builds on and develops yet further the earlier The Guiding Spirit (1986) by Andrew Kauffman/William Putnam and nestled nicely between these beauties and bookends is Ilona Spaar's fine primer Swiss Guides: Shaping Mountain Culture in Western Canada. I have, in various editions of Cloudburst, lightly landed on such topics and issues: "The Canadian Alpine Tradition: Swiss Guides and Conrad Kain (Fall/Winter 2009) and "Swiss Guides: Shaping Mountain Culture in Western Canada" (Fall/Winter 2010). The photos taken in Golden (Alpine Mural) and at Edelweiss Village (with Jean Feuz-Vaughan) reflect, in many ways, the significance of Golden, the Swiss Guides and Edelweiss Swiss Village as icons that must be protected as a vital part of the Canadian mountaineering tradition.

I have been fortunate to do a lingering zoom call with Ilona Spaar and listen in on the heroic effort to preserve both Edelweiss Swiss Village but also the much grander and fuller Swiss-Canadian mountaineering culture and ethos. Those who are interested in delving much deeper into the unfolding project can do so at this link; swissvillage.ca

montani semper liberi

**Ron Dart** 

#### **FEB 2022 EVENTS**

01 Feb Snowshoe Dry Gulch Lookout 8 KM

03 Feb Snowshoe Gibson Meadow Poland Lake 10 KM

Return 300 MR Elevation gain

05 Feb Snowshoe Zoa Sub Peak 11 Km Return & 700

MR elevation gain

06 Feb Micro spike Hike Vedder MT ridge 10 KM

Return 400 MR Elevation Gain

06 Feb Snowshoe Dragon's Back 5.5 Km and 550 MR

**Elevation Gain** 

08 Feb Snowshoe Gibson Meadow Poland Lake 10 KM

Return 300 MR Elevation gain

08 Feb Nordic Ski Manning Park 23 Km and 300 MR

Elevation

11 Feb Micro spike night Hike MT Seymour 8 KM

return and 450 MR elevation gain.

11 Feb Cycle Rotary Trail Loop 22 Km Flat

12 Feb Cycle Fairfield Island 30 Km Flat

12 Feb Snowshoe Gibson Meadow Poland Lake 10 KM

Return 300 MR Elevation gain

15 Feb Snowshoe MT Kelly Manning Park 9.3 KM

Return and 750 MR Elevation gain.

19-25 Feb Trip Backcountry Ski. Wapta Icefield Hut to

24 Feb-4 Mar Trip Lake O'Hara, Elizabeth Parker Hut and Lake Louise Ski, Snowshoe, Micro spike.

7 Snowshoes

1 Nordic ski

2 Micro spike Hikes

2 trips

2 Cycles

## C.O.C. - 2022 MULTI DAY TRIPS

TRIP: DOWNHILL SKIING, CROSS COUNTRY SKIING, SNOWSHOEING AT WHISTLER FROM JANUARY THRU APRIL 2022

LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY AT TWIN-

CREEKS@SHAW.CA

DATES: FROM JANUARY TO APRIL, EVERY WEEK, LEAVE ON THURSDAY, COME BACK FRIDAY OR SATURDAY OR, STAY AT EMBARC RESORTS, LAST MINUTE BOOKING, DATES UNKNOWN, WILL BE **POSTED** 

TRIP: UP THE ALCAN HWY EARLY JUNE, THROUGH WHITEHORSE, UP TO DAWSON CITY, OPTION TO DRIVE THE DEMPSTER HWY, LOOP UP TO KLUANE NP, WHITEHORSE, RETURN ON THE CASSIAR HWY TO MAKE A LOOP RETURN THE LAST WEEK OF JUNE.

LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY AT TWIN-

CREEKS@SHAW.CA

DATES: 3-4 WEEKS IN JUNE 2022 **GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: OLYMPIC PENINSULA, WASHINGTION STATE,

CAR CAMPING, DAY HIKES

**LEADER: CHRISTINE CAMILLERI AT** 4CHRISTINECAMILLERI@GMAIL.COM **DATES:** 5 DAYS AROUND MID JUNE **GROUP SIZE: 12 MAXIMUM OR** 

TRIP: BIKING TRIP TO THE "HEART OF THE

KOOTENAYS" B.C.

LEADER: GARY BAKER AT GARYWBAKER@SHAW.CA **DATES:** 5-7DAYS OF BIKING ROUGHLY AROUND JUNE

20-30, STARTING AT KASLO OR NELSON

**GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: BACKPACK INTO GARABALDI LAKE, WHISTLER AREA, TENTING

LEADER: SUE LAWRENCE AT GWELU@TELUS.NET DATES: JUNE 21-23 3 DAYS/2 NIGHTS TENTING - TUES

- THURS

**GROUP SIZE: MAXIMUM 8** 

TRIP: BACKPACKING TO GARABALDI LAKE PP AT

WHISTLER, 2 NIGHT / 3 DAY, TENTING LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY AT TWIN-

CREEKS@SHAW.CA

DATES: TIME ZONE IS 1ST 3 WK OF JULY OR 4TH WK

OF AUG DEPENDING ON WEATHER AND SITES

**GROUP SIZE: 12 MAXIMUM OR** 

TRIP: STRATHCONA PP, VANCOUVER ISLAND, CAR

CAMP, DAY HIKE, BACKPACK

**LEADER:** CHRISTINE CAMILLERI AT 4CHRISTINECAMILLERI@GMAIL.COM

**DATES:** APPROXIMATELY JULY 7-16, DEPENDS ON

**SNOWPACK** 

**GROUP SIZE:** MAXIMUM 12 OR

**TRIP:** MARRIOT BASIN, ROHR LAKE, PEMBERTON

AREA, BACKPACK

**LEADER: PATRICK RAMSDAN AT** 

PATRICKR@SHAW.CA

DATES: JULY 10-14, TENT, STAY AT WENDY THOMPSON

**HUT 1 NIGHT** 

**GROUP SIZE:** 6-12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: BACKPACK THE ILLAL MEADOWS,

COOUIHALLA AREA. TENTING

**LEADER:** SUE LAWRENCE AT GWELU@TELUS.NET **DATES:** JULUY 19-20, 2 DAYS/1 NIGHTS TENTING -

**TUES-WED** 

**GROUP SIZE: MAXIMUM 8** 

TRIP: REVELSTOKE & GLACIER NP (JULY 24-28) DAY

HIKING, CAR CAMPING LEADER: CAL FRANCIS AT CALFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM

**DATES:** SNOWFLAKE CG JULY 24-28 **GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

**TRIP:** BACKPACKING A VARIATION OF THE HOWE SOIND CREST TRAIL, NORTH VAN, 2 NIGHT / 3 DAY,

**TENTING** 

LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY AT TWIN-

CREEKS@SHAW.CA

**DATES:** 1ST 3 WK OF JULY TO 4TH WEEK OF AUG

DEPENDING ON WEATHER AND SITES **GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: KOOTENAY NP, DAY HIKING, CAR CAMPING LEADER: CAL FRANCIS @ CALFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM

DATES: REDSTREAK CG @ RADIUM BC, JULY 29 – AUG

04

**GROUP SIZE: 12 MAXIMUM OR** 

**TRIP:** CAR CAMPING, HIKING & BACKPACKING IN YUKON (THE KINGS THRONE & THE TOMBSTONE

MTNS)

**LEADER:** JOCE TIMMERMANS AT

JOCELYNTIMMERMANS@HOTMAIL.COM

**DATES:** TRYING TO FIT IT IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST, DAY HIKE KLUANE NP 1ST WEEK AUG & BACKPACK

TOMBSTONE MTNS 3RD WEEK AUG

**GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

BACKPACK TOMBSTONES IS NOW FULL – I CAN PUT YOU ON A WAITING LIST IN CASE OF CANCELLATIONS

TRIP: JASPER NP, THE SKYLINE TRAIL, BACKPACK

**LEADER:** CAL FRANCIS AT CALFRANCIS

@GMAIL.COM

**DATES:** TENTING AUG 14-15 **GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: JASPER NP, CAR CAMPING, HIKING, KAYAKING,

E-BIKING

LEADER: CAL FRANCIS AT CALFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM

**DATES:** CAMPING AUG15-21 **GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: JASPER/BANFF ICEFIELD HWY, CAR CAMPING,

HIKING, KAYAKING

**LEADER:** CAL FRANCIS AT CALFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM

DATES: CAMPING AT WILCOX CG OR MOSQUITO CG

AUG 21-25

**GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: ACC GENERAL MTN CAMP AT INTERNATIONAL

**BASIN** 

LEADER: CINDY WASLEWSKY AT TWIN-

CREEKS@SHAW.CA

**DATES:** AUGUST 6-13, HELICOPTER IN FROM NEAR

GOLDEN

GROUP SIZE: 3 MEMBERS ALREADY SIGNED UP, OPEN

**TRIP:** CAR CAMP AND DAY HIKE SOUTH OF MT BAKER & INTO CASCADES NP ON HIGHWAY 20

**LEADER:** CAL FRANCIS AT CALFRANCIS@GNMAIL.COM

DATES: EARLY - MID SEPT 2022, EXACT DATES SENT

**OUT IN AUGUST** 

**GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM

TRIP: BACKPACK IN MANNING PROVINCIAL PARK

**LEADER:** TERRY BERGEN AT TERRYBERGEN@SHAW.CA

**DATES:** 3 DAYS/2NIGHTS TENTING IN MID

**SEPTEMBER** 

**GROUP SIZE:** 12 MAXIMUM OR

TRIP: BACKPACK COPPER RIDGE, MT BAKER/NORTH

CASCADES AREA

**LEADER:** SUE LAWRENCE AT GWELU@TELUS.NET **DATES:** SEPT 13-15, 3 DAYS/2 NIGHTS TENTING -

TUES-THURS GROUP SIZE: MAXIMUM 6

#### **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: <a href="https://www.valhallapure.com">www.valhallapure.com</a> (club sponsor), <a href="https://www.backpacker.com">www.backpacker.com</a> and <a href="https://www.mec.ca">www.mec.ca</a>.

**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

3	shovels	1	climbing dead man anchor
2	pairs of crampons	13	ice axes
2	avalanche transceivers	1	avalanche probe
6	climbing harnesses & a few carbineers	5	ice screws contact Cal Francis to use: calfrancis@gmail.com

**Note**: All equipment must be returned in the same condition as borrowed or repaired appropriately. The equipment is being examined to determine its state of repair and will be reviewed by the Board of Directors as to what should be retained, scrapped or sold.

#### Hike Grading System

Dura	ation (hrs.)		ion Gain (m)		Difficulty
A	0-4	1	10-500	a	Easy
В	4-7	2	500-1000	b	Moderate
С	7-10	3	1000- 1500	c	Difficult
D	10+	4	1500+	d	Advanced

	Name	E-mail
President:		
Vice President:	Christine Camilleri	4christinecamilleri@gmail.co
Secretary:	Jackie Chambers	Jackie.p.chambers@hotmail.co
Treasurer:	Irene Hofler 604-824-6741	ihofler@telus.net
Executive:	Cal Francis concentration Carol Ault concentration Carol Ault concentration Carol Ault concentration Carol Ault concentration Carol Francis concentration Carol Ault concentration	racy.g22222@gmail.com alfrancis@gmail.com arolault@gmail.com atrickr@shaw.ca errybergen@shaw.ca
Membership:		pershipsecretarycoc@gmail.com
Past President & 1	1	o •
•		
	Carol Ault carolau	ılt@gmail.com
Librarian:		
Librarian: Newsletter Pub:	Jocelyn Timmermans jocelyn	ntimmermans@hotmail.com