Gazette

The Alpine Club of Canada | Le Club Alpin du Canada

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A 2019 Bugaboo teens rope team on Hound's Tooth. | Une cordée d'ados sur Hound's Tooth, Bugaboos, 2019. Photo Pat Morrow

Article: pages 14 & 20

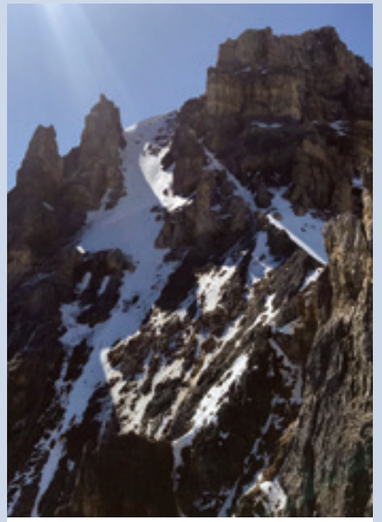
The Girls on Ice Canada team near the Asulkan Cabin, Rogers Pass, BC. Photo by Sarah Karasiuk



Adventures

On any given weekend, from coast to coast to coast of Canada and beyond, you'll find our 17,000 ACC members climbing, hiking, skiing and exploring mountains, crags, and slopes. Each issue we collect their stories to entertain, educate and inspire.

The ACC Gazette is our club's story told by our members, for our members.



Mt Tuzo – The Last One

By Alan Main

Three experienced adventurers from Calgary decided to avoid the rubble by going high, rather than around.

Full story on page 11



Teens in the Bugs

by Keith Haberl
photos by Pat Morrow

In 1909, the ACC brought a young Austrian mountain guide to Canada. More than a century later, the "splendid fire" he kindled burns on in an annual camp for teens.

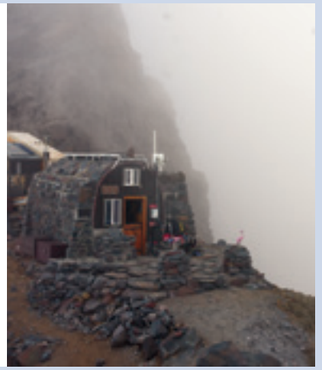
Story and photos on page 14 (English) and page 20 (version française)

Canada Day on Mt Rainier

By Chris Wagner

Spend Canada Day ascending to the summit of Washington's Mount Rainier? Why not? It certainly seemed logical enough to three Prince George Section members and their American cohort, though their best laid plans were threatened by overbooked campgrounds, dropped gloves and a bit of altitude sickness. Would they persevere?

Read more on page 24 (English) and page 27 (version française)





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Submissions to the Gazette are welcome! For submission guidelines email your idea to the Gazette Editor at gazette@alpineclubofcanada.ca

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Editorial

Thoughts on Mountains, Science and Youth not Being Wasted on the Young

In this issue, in addition to our regular adventure stories and departments, we're showcasing two exceptional youth programs that the ACC supports. The first is the Bugaboos Teens climbing program run by the Conrad Kain Centennial Society. This amazing program for Invermere Valley, BC teens is now in its tenth year. Our story, and Pat Morrow's stunning photos, begin on page 14.

The second is the Girls on Ice Canada program, run by Inspiring Girls Expeditions that is described more briefly in the partner profile of Osprey on page 32 as well as in several articles online on Aspects, the ACC blog.

GOIC, which has now completed its second year, is modeled after the highly successful program in the US and the ACC is proud to be a partner and major supporter.

It goes like this: in July of each year, 10 Canadian high-school girls, along with their scientist leaders, head up to the ACC's Asulkan Cabin in Rogers Pass. The Asulkan Glacier area provides the perfect "classroom" and young women build scientific observational skills, understand relationships between organisms and their surroundings and reflect on their own interactions with the mountains through art and science as well as build self-confidence in difficult terrain.

And best of all it's free for 10 girls each year who probably wouldn't get a chance to do this otherwise.

This type of mountain science is a cornerstone of the ACC's mandate and was hard-coded into our constitution at our founding over 100 years ago. Elizabeth Parker, A.O. Wheeler and our club's founders ensured that was a priority, and there's a straight line that connects "the promotion of scientific study of alpine and glacial regions" in 1906 and introducing young women to glacier science through the Girls on Ice program in the 21st century. Somewhere, Elizabeth Parker is smiling.



Artwork by Jake Ferguson, 14. Kain Bugaboos Teens camp, 2019.

For the ACC, the thread that connects Bugaboos Teens and GOIC is our strong belief in the value of adventuring in the mountains and pursuing experiences that create deep connections to the alpine world. Because those that love our natural areas will be the ones fighting to preserve them.

You can learn more about Girls on Ice Canada at www.inspiringgirls.org and Bugaboos Teens at www.conradkain.com.

–Keith Haberl

The Banff Mountain Book and Film Festival wrapper

As we did last year at this time, we've published two separate versions of the winter edition of the *Gazette*. There's a standard version that's mailed to our members (albeit with a bit more content than previous editions – we've officially moved from 32 to 36 pages) and a special edition that we've created to have on hand at our events surrounding the annual Banff Festivals. This Festival version contains all of the same innards as the standard *Gazette* but includes a four-page cover wrapper with extra Festival content.

We're thrilled that we were able to get climbing-world-famous cartoonist and provocateur Tami Knight to contribute the artwork for the wrapper cover. Thanks, Tami.

–Keith Haberl



Tami Knight's art on the Banff Festival wrapper of the winter Gazette. You can also see the art online at alpineclubofcanada.ca/gazette



Contributor Profiles



DEAN ALBRECHT is a native of Edmonton and ACC member since 2003. As an occasional contributor to the Gazette, he's shared such diverse adventures as climbing in Alaska and trekking in Bhutan. Most recently, Dean participated in the Club's Donjek Glacier trip in Kluane NP.



ALLAN MAIN is a long-time member of the ACC, serving on the Calgary Section Executive Committee in the early 1990's and later with the section's Training and Leadership Committee. He was an amateur leader for the General Mountaineering Camp for a dozen years. His climbing experiences include trips to Mexican volcanos as well as the Tetons, although most his mountain experiences have been in western Canada. An ardent reader and reciter of Robert Service's works, he aspires to call himself a mountaineer.



PAT MORROW is one of Canada's most renowned mountaineers. In 1982 he became the second Canadian to climb Mount Everest and four years later he was the first person to complete the Seven Summits. He is an award-winning photographer, filmmaker and best-selling author. In recent years, he has worked extensively with the Conrad Kain Centennial Society, and as chair and organizer of the Bugaboos Teens mountaineering program, introducing Columbia Valley teens to alpine adventure.



TAMI KNIGHT has been drawing cartoons about climbers for forty years. This makes her old, but not as old as some ACC'ers. HAHAHAHH!!!!! Her favorite hut is the Elizabeth Parker Hut especially when there's plenty of scotch and Chic Scott is there telling stories.



BETH FRANK is a former journalist and communications director. These days, she's a Calgary-based writer/editor working with amazing non-profits like the ACC. When she's not searching for bon mots, she's outdoors – hiking, skiing, sailing and walking the dog. She spends summers in a rustic cabin on the shores of Lake Windermere, BC.



CHRIS WAGNER is a member of the ACC's Prince George Section and has lived in Northern BC for 15 years. He got into outdoor adventures through Scouting and Cadets in his early years. He's currently trying to find a balance between hiking, climbing, mountaineering, paragliding, trail running, mountain biking, gardening, skiing, and working to pay for all of the above.

Nominate a Volunteer

Every year, the members of The Alpine Club of Canada's Awards Committee volunteer their time to sift through numerous nominations to determine the recipients of the club's Volunteer Awards.

Nominations are now open for outstanding Alpine Club of Canada volunteers. The following awards recognize and celebrate ACC volunteers for their contributions to the club and its members:

- **A.O. Wheeler Legacy Award**
- **Honorary Membership**
- **President's Award**
- **Silver Rope for Leadership Award**
- **Distinguished Service Award**
- **Don Forest Service Award**
- **Eric Brooks Leader Award**

For details on how to nominate a volunteer and nomination forms, visit **alpineclubofcanada.ca/awards** or call the ACC National Office at (403) 678-3200 ext. 222 to receive the information by mail.

Deadline for nominations is December 31.

Nommez un bénévole

Chaque année, les membres du Comité des prix du Club Alpin du Canada consacrent de leur temps libre à passer au crible de nombreuses nominations pour déterminer les lauréats des Prix de bénévolat du club.

Les candidatures sont maintenant ouvertes pour les bénévoles exceptionnels du Club Alpin du Canada. Les prix suivants reconnaissent et célèbrent les bénévoles du CAC pour leurs contributions au club et à ses membres :

- **Prix A.O. Wheeler Legacy**
- **Membre honoraire**
- **Prix du président**
- **Prix Silver Rope du leadership**
- **Prix pour le service remarquable**
- **Prix de service Don Forest**
- **Prix leader Eric Brooks**

Pour plus de détails sur les formulaires de candidature et la façon de nommer un bénévole, visitez **alpineclubofcanada.ca/awards** ou appelez le Bureau national du CAC au (403) 678-3200 ext. 222 pour recevoir l'information par la poste.

La date de tombée des candidatures est le 31 décembre.

ACC Grants Program

Through the generosity of many donors, The Alpine Club of Canada has established funds to support mountaineering related projects and initiatives. The deadline for submission of grant applications is January 31, 2020. Grant recipients will be announced mid-March.

The Environment Grant provides support that contributes to the protection and preservation of alpine flora and fauna in their natural habitat. The focus of the grant is wilderness conservation.

The Jen Higgins Grant promotes creative and energetic alpine related outdoor pursuits by young women. These projects should demonstrate initiative, creativity, energy and resourcefulness with an emphasis on self-propelled wilderness travel, and should provide value and interest to the community.

Jim Colpitts Grant encourages young climbers between the ages of 17 and 24 to participate in mountain related courses and programs such as wilderness first aid, avalanche training, rock/crevasse rescue and mountain leadership training.

For info and application forms visit **alpineclubofcanada.ca/grants** or call the ACC National Office at 403-678-3200 ext. 222.

Upcoming

Board of Directors Meeting Dates 2020

- **February 29/ March 1, 2020** *(Canmore)*
- **May 23/24, 2020 AGM** *(Lake Louise)*
- **July 9, 2019 15:00** *(Conference call)*
- **September 10, 2020 15:00** *(Conference call)*
- **October 30/ November 1, 2020 Mountain Guides Ball** *(Banff)*

Canadian Alpine Journal Submissions

Deadline for submitting articles for the upcoming CAJ is February 1, 2020.
For more information, visit:
alpineclubofcanada.ca/caj

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2020 Elections Board of Directors

Nominations closed on October 31, 2019.

The ACC Nominations Committee is working to provide its candidate slate and its recommendation from among the candidates to the applicants and the Board of Directors by February 1, 2020. The Committee shall be in a position to publish the slate to the general membership by mid to late February 2020.

For further information:

alpineclubofcanada.ca/election

Winter 19/20 Camps

The ACC Adventures team organizes fully guided camps and courses for ACC members. Our winter 19/20 programs are now online! Register at: alpineclubofcanada.ca/adventures.

Avalanche Safety

- *AST1*
- *Managing Avalanche Terrain*
- *AST2*
- *Advanced Decision Making*



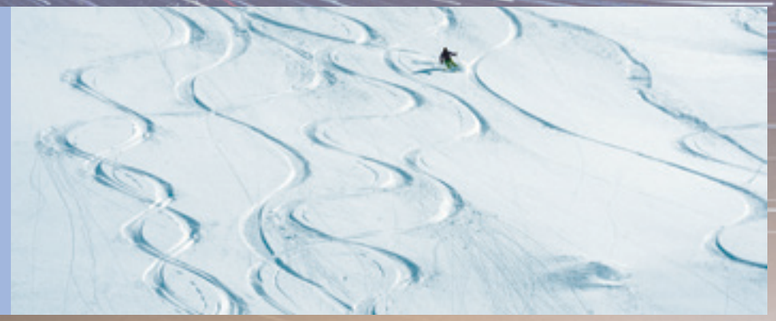


Ice Camps

- *Intro to Ice Climbing*
- *Early Season Ice with Sean Isaac*

Backcountry Skiing

- *Intro to Backcountry Skiing (women-only and splitboard options available)*
- *Fairy Meadow Powder*
- *Rogers Pass Powder (Wheeler and Asulkan Editions)*
- *Women's Ski Camp*





Ski Mountaineering

- *Crevasse Rescue Skills*
- *Intro to Ski Mountaineering*
- *Wapta Traverse*
- *Bow-Yoho Traverse*
- *Columbia Icefields*
- *Brazeau Icefields Camping Traverse*

alpineclubofcanada.ca/adventures



Mt. Tuzo - The Last One

Three experienced adventurers from Calgary decided to avoid the rubble by going high, rather than around.

By Alan Main

Mountaineering lists can be treacherous things. They often start out as a wish list of peaks and routes, but can morph into a demanding voice that won`t leave you alone. They can be short, like a post-it note, or a long scroll of optimism.

They can get you in to trouble, or they can be impetus for exploration and discovery. This is the story of a mountaineering list that lead to discovery of an unused (or rarely used) route in Banff's Valley of the 10 Peaks.

In September 2009, Chuck Young and I completed ascents of all the summits that create the Lake Louise amphitheatre (Mt. Niblock to Fairview Mountain). At that point we noticed that there weren't too many summits left for both of us to complete a similar collection of peaks in the Moraine Lake amphitheatre, and that became our next mountaineering list. In July of this year, we completed our tour of the Moraine Lake summits with an ascent of Mt. Tuzo – the final piece of this particular puzzle.

Tuzo had the honour of being the last peak our boots stood upon, not because it was the most difficult, but rather because it was the most difficult one to access! Everyone we talked to didn`t know a whole lot about Tuzo, except that the peaks in the area are renowned for crappy Rockies rubble. The most certain route up the peak plods up Prospector`s Valley to Kaufmann Lake, then up a long scree slope.

Above: From shoulder of Mt Perren towards Allen. Route follows E ridge of Allen to light coloured summit block. Prominent gendarme visible on N side of Allen with Deltaform off to R showing above Allen-Tuzo col. Photo Allan Main

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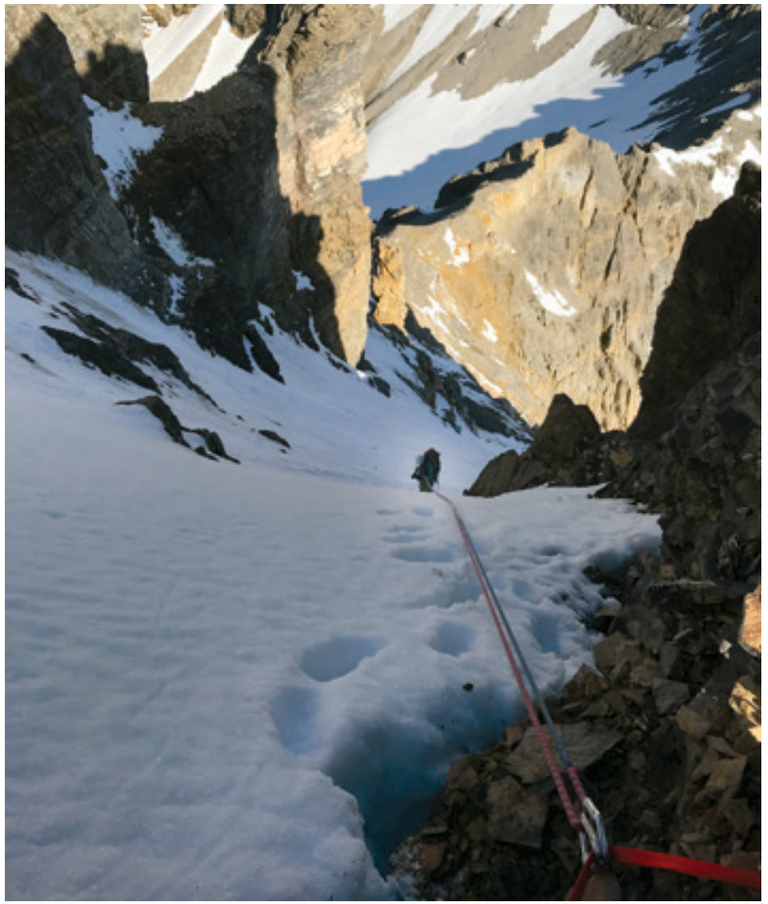
Visit **alpineclubofcanada.ca/insurance**



Tuzo can also be accessed from the ACC's Neil Colgan Hut, but there are a few mountains in the way, including Mt. Allen, skirting which involves a long traverse on that mountain's west and south sides across mindless scree. We were looking for something different.

When we were at the Colgan Hut a few years ago, I noticed an enormous prominent gendarme perched high on the north edge of Mt. Allen. Maybe, we thought, there would be a ledge that would allow us to skirt the north side of the mountain, avoiding the ugly southern scree traverse. The only way to find out was to go 'put our noses against it'.

At 06:05 on July 22, Mike Dodge, Chuck and I reached the Moraine Lake parking lot zoo, but we didn't get a parking spot until 06:35! We reached the Colgan Hut via the Perren route and spent a lazy afternoon before bedding down early.



Starting at 05:30 the next morning, we didn't need crampons and within one hour had crossed the glacier to reach the low point (grid reference 552827) in the south ridge of Mount Perren. After some discussion we climbed up the broken ground and ledges of Allen's northeast ridge but were unable to find a 'magical' ledge that would lead towards the gendarme; another party might have better success.

Rather than descending, we pushed upwards on Allen's east ridge toward a light coloured rock band that barred progress (545828) at the top of the snowfields. We turned sharply to the northwest, towards the southeast ridge of Tuzo, which at this point was clearly visible.

We put on our crampons, slung a large block and did two 60m rappels down a snow couloir to a rocky promontory. The snow was still in quite good condition but some icy spots were showing through. From here we belayed each other to complete a slightly descending traverse to regain the northwest ridge of Allen (543828). Our ice screws were very welcome as was the third ice tool we had brought along!

From here the route was fairly straightforward. We descended the ridge to the Allen-Tuzo col, and then climbed up the southeast ridge to the summit of Tuzo. Although the SE ridge appears to have some significant gendarmes and rock steps, all of these can be passed fairly easily on the southwest side. We gained the summit at 13:00 and found that we were the first party to make a register entry since 2015.

Left: Rappelling down the snow gully on the north side of Allen. Small snow patches on Allen-Tuzo col visible on the right. Photo Allan Main

After sunning ourselves for a bit, we retraced our steps: Down the SE ridge of Tuzo, partial ascent of the NW ridge of Allen, traverse to and ascend the snow couloir, down climb the NE ridge of Allen, link to south ridge of Perren, and return to the hut. The trip took 14 hours, from hut to hut. We were anticipating the weather might breakdown later in the day, and we were extremely grateful to be safe inside by the time a wild storm with strong winds, driving rain, thunder and lightning unleashed!

We descended the Perren route from the Neil Colgan Hut to Moraine Lake the following day.

This route to Mt. Tuzo over the shoulder of Allen, rather than around it, is so apparent in retrospect, that it seems likely to have been used before, but I haven't seen any documentation. We did not see any slings or pitons on our rappel down to the Allen-Tuzo col. It should also be noted that the couloir is a potentially dangerous place, particularly in the case of ice rather than snow. A great deal of caution should be used when traveling this couloir route.

Allan Main, Chuck Young, Mike Dodge
—Mount Tuzo, July 22-24, 2019







Teens in the Bugs



In 1909, the ACC brought a young Austrian mountain guide to Canada. More than a century later, the "splendid fire" he kindled burns on.

by Keith Haberl, photos by Pat Morrow

Conrad Kain 100 celebration

Ten years ago, the Conrad Kain Centennial Society (CKCS) threw a party in BC's Columbia Valley to mark the 100th year of the arrival in Canada of the ACC's first mountain guide.

In the small town of Wilmer, 400 admirers of Kain partied and raised money for the CKCS, to celebrate Kain's lasting impact on Canada's mountains and to continue his influence into the future.

A play (*"As Far As I Can Take You"* by Laurie Schwartz), a ballad (*"Where the Clouds Can Go"* by Mark Koenig) and a commissioned painting (*"Local Ascent"* by Pat Bavin) were crafted to celebrate Kain's life. A cairn was constructed by Hermann Mauthner with rocks sent or hand-carried from 23 different mountains in Canada, New Zealand, Austria and Corsica that Kain had been the first to climb.

The party, organized by CKCS Chairman Pat Morrow, was attended by, among others, two people who had known Kain in their youth, climbing luminaries including four members of the 1982 Canadian Mt. Everest expedition, politicians, artists, historians and mountain lovers. It was a once in a century event.

Most importantly, the CKCS that year launched a living legacy to Kain in the form of a program for young climbers to receive professionally guided access to the peaks that Kain had made famous.

Who was Conrad Kain?

Born in Austria, Conrad Kain forged a reputation as a leading mountain guide in Europe as a young man and emigrated to Canada in 1909. Over the next few years under the auspices of the ACC, he made groundbreaking first ascents of Mt. Robson, Mt. Louis, Bugaboo Spire, Howser Spire and Farnham Tower to name a few. His first ascents were considered some of the most difficult on the continent and were all done as a guide – notably with ACC members Albert and Bess MacCarthy. Kain settled in Wilmer, BC, where he lived until his death in 1934.

CKCS Bugaboos Teens Program

The very day after the Conrad Kain celebration in Wilmer in 2009, ACMG guides Kirk Mauthner (son of CKCS founder Hermann Mauthner) and Tim McAllister, both of whom live in Wilmer, volunteered their guiding services for the inaugural trip to the Bugaboos. Six teens from Invermere and Golden were guided and taught mountain skills in a three-day outing.

Despite rainy weather, the group was able to undertake a grand tour of the Bugs, an outing that included glacier travel, crack climbing in drizzle and summiting Eastpost Spire (2,728m) for a view of Bugaboo Spire, the site of Kain's ground-breaking first ascent in 1916.

In 2010, the Teens camp transitioned into an annual event, once again heading to the Bugaboos for climbing and team/life-building skills.

In 2011, the program celebrated the 100th anniversary of BC Parks, which has been a sponsor of the program since its inception.

In 2012, the guiding team for the Bugaboos Teens trip included Mauthner and McAllister, who had guided the first trip in 2009. The pair would go on to be hired to guide the program for the following years, as the program falls within the peak of their guiding season and Morrow felt they should be paid a stipend. They also welcomed Sharon Wood, the first North American woman to climb Mt.

"When I got home from the trip, still wet from being rained on, I was tired, and, most of all, grinning like a fool. My mom asked if the trip had been good, and I said: 'No. It was awesome.'"

– Claire deBoer, participant on the first Bugaboo teens camp.

"Conrad Kain is the most celebrated figure in the history of Canadian Mountaineering."

– Chic Scott, *Pushing the Limits*



Above: ACMG guide Tim McAllister's body language conforms to his route description of Conrad Kain first ascent of the south west ridge of Bugaboo Spire. | Ci-dessus : Le langage corporel du guide AGMC Tim McAllister accompagne sa description de l'itinéraire de la première ascension de la crête sud-ouest de Bugaboo Spire par Conrad Kain.
Right: Paris Howe and Rosylyn Johnson gearing up. | À droite : Paris Howe et Rosylyn Johnson se préparent.



Left: Robert Caldwell, (Golden teen) on way up to Hounds Tooth, one of the tried 'n true summits that gives an all-round experience of rope work while crossing Bugaboo Glacier. | À gauche : Robert Caldwell, de Golden, monte vers Hounds Tooth, sommet testé et approuvé pour sa riche expérience de travail de corde en traversant le glacier Bugaboo.

Everest, as a guide for the teens.

In 2013, due to exceptionally good weather, the program was able to reach the summit of one of the major peaks in the Bugaboos – Pigeon Spire (3,156m). Foggy and rainy conditions had previously kept the teams on the glaciers and the scrambling peaks. The guiding team added ACMG guide Jen Olson, who would provide her expertise to the program every year thereafter.

The 6th annual Bugaboos Teens group in 2014, while en route to Eastpost Spire passed through Applebee Dome campsite and got an unexpected treat. Will Stanhope and Matt Segal, who were in residence at the camp while working on freeing the Tom Egan Memorial Route on Snowpatch Spire, welcomed the group, told stories and generally gave a glimpse into the world of dedicated, extreme rock climbing (see cover and story in the 2016 *Canadian Alpine Journal*). Notes were taken.

The following year's trip found rainy weather again (it is the Bugaboos, after all) and dealt with the challenges of finding safe climbing objectives in the wet weather and poor visibility. The team managed to summit Eastpost Spire and watched the clouds roil behind Snowpatch and Bugaboo.

2016 saw yet another important celebration of a 100th anniversary, this time of Conrad Kain's ascent of Bugaboo Spire in 1916. The climb was regarded as one of the hardest of its day and is still a highly prized accomplishment.

"Thank you ACC and CKCS...it was one of the most amazing things I have done in my life. I had such a great time and it was so cool to meet all the different people."

— Teen alumni Janine Harach

That year also included a Teens alumni trip in September that brought together participants from past camps, along with organizer Pat Morrow, to attempt to climb Bugaboo via Kain's original route. Over the first eight Teens camps, youths from the Kootenay/Columbia region had been guided to the tops of several of the minor peaks, but Bugaboo Spire had always eluded the groups due to poor conditions.

The weather that autumn was no exception. An early snowstorm plastered all of the rock climbing objectives and the Kain Route was out.

Instead, the guides took the group on roped adventures across the Bugaboo and Vowell glaciers and to the tops of Hounds Tooth (2,824m) and Eastpost Spire in marginal conditions.

The 2017 camp was almost cancelled due to heavy wildfire smoke in the area. At the last minute, a change of wind direction cleared the air enough to make the camp happen with a change of base to the Wilmer Community Hall. Highlights included an airy limestone ridge traverse above Pedley Pass in the Rockies and an ascent of glacier-clad Redline Peak in the Purcells.

By the time of the 2018 camp, 100 youths from communities up and down the Rocky Mountain Trench had taken part in the Bugaboos Teens program. Each year they had learned the mountaineering skills required to stand on summits, developed leadership skills and learned the importance of teamwork. They've discovered career opportunities within the Parks system such as adventure guiding, park ranger and rescue services, eco-friendly tourism, natural history interpretation, conservation and photography. And perhaps most importantly, they've made friendships with their peers that will last a lifetime.

2019 camp

Bookended by a drenching hike to the Conrad Kain Hut, and a heart-stopping dip in a snow-rimmed tarn above Applebee campground, the 11th annual Bugaboos Teens climbing camp turned out to be one of the best.

Snow conditions on the glaciers were near perfect for travel, and the rockfall that can threaten the approach to the Bugaboo - Snowpatch col at this time of year was minimal.



Right: ACMG guide Jen Olson leading a rope with Snowpatch Spire in the background. | À droite : Jen Olson, de l'AGMC, dirige une corde, avec Snowpatch Spire en arrière-plan.

This year, the team was unexpectedly greeted by a Bugaboos Teens alumnus who was working with the BC Parks Student Rangers crew which operates all over the province.

The team, led by guides Jen Olson, Tim McAllister, and Kyle Chartrand had great days climbing the old standbys Hound's Tooth and Eastpost Spire.

Conrad Kain's Legacy

Conrad Kain's love of mountains has inspired many into lives of high adventure in the mountains and the Bugaboos Teens outings will hopefully help to kick-start life-long relationships with the mountains for these teens.

This was almost exactly what organizer Pat Morrow went through as a teen in the Bugaboos 40 years ago. Morrow first read about Conrad Kain in the autobiographical book, *Where the Clouds Can Go*, and attempted to climb a storm-threatened Bugaboo Spire with an equally inexperienced partner when he was 16.

"The combination of literature and firsthand experience laid the groundwork for a wonderful life of high adventure in my mountainous backyard, and in the greater ranges of the world. For that, I am indebted to Conrad, and his love of the mountains. The least I could do in return was to help set up this program in order to 'give back' to the climbing community."

The Bugaboos Teens program is offered to the participants for free, thanks to the generous help from sponsors.

Application process

Participation in Bugaboos Teens is aimed at students from grades 10 through 12 that live in "the Trench", from Creston through Fernie to Golden, BC. The goal is to introduce kids to the world-famous mountains in their backyard and create an opportunity for them to forge strong relationships with the natural world.

Pat Morrow gives an A/V presentation about Conrad Kain and the Bugaboos Teens program to the outdoor ed classes at high schools in Cranbrook, Kimberley and Invermere every spring, and invites teens (or their parents) to contact him at focus@patmorrow.com with a few sentences outlining the extent of their outdoor experience and why they'd like to participate.

More details on Conrad Kain, the CKCS and past camps can be found at conradkain.com.

CKCS sends thanks

The CKCS thanks The Alpine Club of Canada, the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides, BC Parks, Canadian Mountain Holidays, Columbia Valley Community Foundation, Regional District of East Kootenay/Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives, and the teachers and parents of all of the participants for the continued financial and in-kind support. The costs for guides wages, food, and incidentals comes close to $6,000 annually. We welcome any lump sum solutions to cut the time and energy it takes to apply for piecemeal grants.

33 | BACKCOUNTRY HUTS

The Bow-Yoho's Missing Link

The Louise and Richard Guy Hut at Mont des Poilus on the Wapta Icefield is ideally situated on the Bow-Yoho Traverse.

Experience remote skiing on Yoho Peak, Mont des Poilus and Mt Collie.



Photo: @pebbleshoo

Know your history ...

Mountaineering excursions onto the Wapta and Waputik Icefields date back to the late 19th century when early explorers were drawn by peaks such as Gordon, Olive and St. Nicholas. The north-south Wapta traverse, which has had huts in place since the late 1960s is one of the most popular ski traverses in the Rockies.

The first documented crossing of the Bow-Yoho traverse (the east-west line across the Wapta) was made in summer, 1910 by a party led by Conrad Kain and included the first ascent of Mont des Poilus. An east-west hut traverse had been a dream for decades before the Guy Hut was completed in 2016.

The Wapta's newest and most modern hut is named after husband and wife, stalwart ACC members, volunteers and fundraisers. You'll still find Richard, now in his second century, at ACC events.

Getting there ...

Most trips to the Guy Hut begin at Bow Hut to the east and continue to the Stanley Mitchell Hut in the Little Yoho Valley and on to Takkakaw Falls and Field, BC to the west (the Bow-Yoho Traverse). The trip requires strong ski mountaineering, glacier travel and navigation skills.

The Guy Hut is open for winter accommodation only, closing annually in the spring to avoid pressuring sensitive grizzly bear habitat.

Accommodations ...

The hut sleeps 18 people in a comfortable upstairs sleeping loft. The spacious main floor kitchen includes propane stoves and extensive cooking supplies. The hut has electric lights, powered by solar panels and wind turbines.

For booking, call our reservations team at 403-678-3200 ext. 0.

www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/huts



Des ados aux Bugaboos

« Conrad Kain est la figure la plus célébrée de l'histoire de l'alpinisme canadien. »

– Chic Scott, *Pushing the Limits*

En 1909, le CAC faisait venir au Canada un jeune guide de montagne autrichien. Plus d'un siècle après, la flamme qu'il a animée brûle toujours.

by Keith Haberl, photos by Pat Morrow

Célébration du centenaire de Conrad Kain

Il y a dix ans, la *Conrad Kain Centennial Society* (CKCS) organisait une fête dans la Columbia Valley (B.-C.), qui soulignait le centenaire de l'arrivée au Canada du premier guide de montagne du CAC.

Dans la petite communauté de Wilmer, 400 admirateurs de Kain ont fait la fête et amassé des fonds pour la CKCS afin de célébrer son impact durable et perpétuer son influence dans le futur.

Une pièce de théâtre (« *As Far As I Can Take You* » de Laurie Schwartz), une ballade (« *Where the Clouds Can Go* » de Mark Koenig) et une peinture commandée (« *Local Ascent* » par Pat Bavin) ont été créées pour célébrer la vie de Kain. Hermann Mauthner a édifié un cairn dont les pierres proviennent de 23 montagnes que Kairn a été le premier à grimper au Canada, en Nouvelle-Zélande, en Autriche et en Corse.

Organisée par le président de la CKCS Pat Morrow, la fête reçut la visite de deux personnes qui avaient connu Kain dans leur jeunesse, de sommités de l'alpinisme, dont quatre membres de l'expédition canadienne du mont Everest de 1982, de politiciens, d'artistes, d'historiens et des passionnés de la montagne. Un événement unique en son siècle.

Mieux encore, la CKCS lança cette année, pour perpétuer l'héritage vivant de Kain, un programme qui permet aux jeunes grimpeurs de recevoir un accès professionnellement guidé aux sommets que Kain avait rendu célèbres.

Qui était Conrad Kain?

Originaire d'Autriche, le jeune Conrad Kain s'était déjà bâti une forte réputation de guide de montagne en Europe avant d'émigrer au Canada en 1909. Sous les auspices du CAC, il cumula bon nombre de premières ascensions novatrices, dont celles du mont Robson, du mont Louis, de Bugaboo Spire, Howser Spire et Farnham Tower, classées parmi les plus difficiles du continent, et où Kain tenait toujours le rôle de guide, notamment auprès des membres du CAC Albert et Bess MacCarthy. Établi à Wilmer, C.-B., Kain s'est éteint en 1934.

Le programme CKCS Bugaboos Teens

Le lendemain des célébrations de Wilmer en 2009, les guides AGMC Kirk Mauthner (fils du fondateur de la CKCS Hermann Mauthner) et Tim McAllister, tous deux citoyens de Wilmer, se sont proposés comme guides bénévoles à l'expédition inaugurale dans les Bugaboos. Six jeunes d'Invermere et de Golden furent guidés et instruits pendant trois jours.

Malgré le temps pluvieux, le groupe put entreprendre une grande tournée des Bugs, incluant un parcours glaciaire, de l'escalade en fissure sous la bruine et une montée au sommet d'Eastpost Spire (2 728 m), qui donne vue sur Bugaboo Spire, dont Kain a fait la première et historique ascension en 1916.

En 2010, le Teens camp s'est mué en événement annuel, visant toujours les Bugaboos pour transmettre des aptitudes en escalade et développer l'esprit d'équipe et personnel.

En 2011, le programme a célébré le centenaire de BC Parks, commanditaire du programme depuis ses débuts.

En 2012, Mauthner et McAllister, guides de la première expédition de 2009, firent partie des guides de l'expédition Bugaboos Teens trip. Comme le programme advient au point culminant de leur saison de guides et que Morrow trouvait qu'ils devaient recevoir une allocation, le duo serait embauché pour guider le programme les années suivantes. Il accueillit également Sharon Wood, la première Nord-Américaine à avoir monté l'Everest, pour guider les ados.

En 2013, grâce à une météo exceptionnelle, le programme a pu atteindre le sommet de Pigeon Spire (3 156 m), l'un des principaux pics des Bugaboos. Le brouillard

« Quand je suis rentré du voyage, encore trempé par la pluie, j'étais épuisée et, surtout, souriante comme une idiote. Quand ma mère a demandé comment avait été le voyage, j'ai répondu qu'il avait été formidable »

— Claire deBoer, participante au premier Bugaboo Teens camp



Ci-dessus : Le CAC soutient ce programme depuis ses débuts, fournissant de l'hébergement au refuge de Conrad Kain. | Above: The ACC has supported this program from its first year, providing accommodation at Conrad Kain Hut.
À droite : Tim McAllister tient Rory Smith, de Cranbrook, en corde courte à Eastpost Spire. | Right: Tim McAllister short ropes Rory Smith, (Cranbrook teen) Eastpost Spire.



À gauche : La guide AGMC Jen Olson et ses ados gravissent un autre objectif. | Left: ACMG guide Jen Olson ascends another objective with her teens.

et la pluie des années précédentes ayant gardé les équipes parmi les pics de glaciers et de randonnée-escalade (« scrambling »). La guide AGMC Jen Olson fut ajoutée à l'équipe, mettant son expertise à contribution jusqu'à aujourd'hui.

En 2014, le sixième Bugaboos Teens group qui traversait le camping d'Applebee Dome pour se rendre à Eastpost Spire eut droit à une surprise inattendue. Will Stanhope et Matt Segal, résidant au camp pour dégager le parcours commémoratif Tom Egan Memorial Route sur Snowpatch Spire, accueillirent le groupe, partagèrent des histoires et donnèrent un aperçu du monde intense et dédié à l'escalade de rochers (voir la couverture et l'article du *Canadian Alpine Journal* de 2016). Des notes furent prises.

Le temps pluvieux est revenu l'année suivante (ce sont les Bugaboos après tout), avec le défi de trouver des objectifs de grimpe sécuritaires sous ce climat humide à faible visibilité. L'équipe est parvenue à monter Eastpost Spire, où elle a observé le roulement des nuages derrière Snowpatch et Bugaboo.

2016 marquait la célébration d'un autre centenaire important, celui de l'ascension de Bugaboo Spire par Conrad Kain en 1916, considérée comme l'une des plus difficiles à l'époque, et un exploit toujours très prisé aujourd'hui.

« Je remercie le CAC et la CKCS pour l'une des plus excitantes aventures de ma vie. J'ai passé un moment fabuleux et c'était vraiment super de rencontrer toutes ces personnes différentes. »

– Janine Harach, « ancienne » du programme

À droite : Du sommet d'Eastpost, une vue imprenable sur les flèches de Snowpatch, Howser et Bugaboo récompense les ados. | Right: Teens rewarded with stellar views of Snowpatch, Howser and Bugaboo Spires from the top of Eastpost.

En septembre cette même année une expédition réunissait les « anciens » des camps précédents, organisée par Pat Morrow afin de tenter le Bugaboo d'après l'itinéraire original de Kain. Pendant les huit camps précédents, les jeunes de la région de Kootenay/Columbia avaient été guidés au sommet de plusieurs pics mineurs, mais Bugaboo Spire leur avait toujours échappé à cause du climat.

Cette tentative ne fit pas exception quand, au matin, tous les objectifs en escalade de rochers furent enduits par une tempête de neige, forçant à abandonner l'itinéraire de Kain.

À la place, les guides proposèrent au groupe des aventures cordées dans les glaciers Bugaboo et Vowell, ainsi qu'aux sommets de Hounds Tooth (2,824 m) et d'Eastpost Spire, dans des conditions marginales.

En 2017, une épaisse fumée d'incendie dans la région faillit annuler le camp. Mais un changement de direction du vent de dernière minute dégagea suffisamment l'atmosphère pour que le camp ait lieu en changeant de base au Wilmer Community Hall. La traversée d'une crête calcaire au-dessus de Pedley Pass dans les Rocheuses et l'ascension du pic Redline Peak, recouvert de glaciers dans les Purcells, en furent les points culminants.

Au moment du camp de 2018, 100 jeunes issus des communautés situées de haut en bas du sillon des Rocheuses avaient déjà pris part au programme Bugaboos Teens, apprenant chaque année les habiletés requises en alpinisme pour se tenir sur des sommets, développant leurs aptitudes en leadership et réalisant l'importance du travail d'équipe. Ils ont découvert au réseau des parcs des opportunités de carrière en guidage d'aventure, en surveillance forestière, en secourisme, en tourisme écoresponsable, en interprétation de l'histoire naturelle, en conservation et en photographie. Mieux encore, ils ont noué des amitiés pour la vie.

Le camp de 2019

Encadré par une randonnée trempée au refuge Conrad Kain et une stupéfiante trempette dans un petit lac bordé de neige au-dessus du camping Applebee, le onzième camp d'escalade annuel Bugaboos



Teens compta parmi l'un des meilleurs.

Sur les glaciers, les conditions neigeuses étaient presque parfaites pour l'excursion, et le risque de chutes de rochers qui menace l'approche du col Snowpatch était à son minimum à ce moment de l'année.

Cette année-là, l'équipe reçut l'accueil inattendu d'un « ancien » du programme, devenu membre de l'équipe des gardes étudiants de BC Parks qui travaille partout à travers la province.

Dirigée par les guides Jen Olson, Tim McAllister et Kyle Chartrand, l'équipe a passé des jours agréables à escalader les bons vieux Hound's Tooth et Eastpost Spire.

L'héritage de Conrad Kain

L'amour de Conrad Kain pour la montagne a inspiré à plusieurs le goût d'une vie d'aventures en haute altitude et nous espérons que les sorties des Bugaboos Teens donneront à ces ados le coup d'envoi d'un amour de la montagne qui durera toute leur vie.

Cette expérience correspond presque exactement à ce que l'organisateur Pat Morrow a vécu adolescent dans les Bugaboos 40 ans plus tôt. Morrow avait découvert Conrad Kain dans l'autobiographie *Where the Clouds Can Go*, avant de tenter à 16 l'ascension d'un Bugaboo Spire menacé par l'orage avec un camarade aussi peu expérimenté que lui.

« La littérature et l'expérience de terrain ont installé ensemble les bases d'une formidable vie d'aventure, tant dans les montagnes situées dans ma cour arrière que dans les plus grands massifs du monde, et je le dois beaucoup à Conrad Kain et sa passion. Aussi, la moindre des choses que je pouvais faire était d'aider à établir ce programme afin de redonner quelque chose à la communauté alpine. »

Grâce à l'aide généreuse de ses commanditaires, le programme Bugaboos Teens est offert gratuitement à ses participants.

Pour s'inscrire

Le programme Bugaboos Teens s'adresse aux étudiants de la dixième à la douzième année qui habitent dans la « tranchée » qui va de Creston à Golden en passant par Fernie, C.-B. Son but est d'initier les jeunes aux montagnes célèbres de leur environnement immédiat et de leur offrir l'occasion de forger une relation forte avec le monde naturel.

Pat Morrow anime chaque printemps une présentation audiovisuelle sur Conrad Kain et le programme Bugaboos Teens parmi les classes de plein air des écoles secondaires de Cranbrook, Kimberley et Invermere. Il y invite les jeunes (ou leurs parents) à lui écrire à focus@patmorrow.com en résumant brièvement leur expérience de plein air et les raisons qui les motivent à faire partie du programme.

On trouvera plus d'informations sur Conrad Kain, la CKCS et les camps antérieurs à conradkain.com.

Remerciements de la CKCS

La CKCS remercie le Club alpin du Canada, l'Association des guides de montagne canadiens, BC Parks, Canadian Mountain Holidays, la Columbia Valley Community Foundation, les initiatives du district régional d'East Kootenay et de la Columbia Basin Trust Community, ainsi que les enseignants et les parents de tous les participants pour leur indéfectible appui financier et en nature. Les coûts en salaires et en nourriture ainsi que les frais accessoires s'élèvent à près de 6 000 $ par année. Nous accueillons avec gratitude toute solution forfaitaire qui réduit le temps et l'énergie nécessaire pour faire à la pièce des demandes de subventions.



View of Mt Rainier from the trail. | Le mont Rainier, vu de la piste. Photo Frank Spears.

Canada Day on Mount Rainier

Spend Canada Day ascending to the summit of Washington's Mount Rainier? Why not? It certainly seemed logical enough to three Prince George Section members and their American cohort, though their best laid plans were threatened by overbooked campgrounds, dropped gloves and a bit of altitude sickness. Will they persevere?

By Chris Wagner

The alarm went off at 11:30pm—summoning me from the comfort of a sleeping bag into the cold, dark night. As I rolled over, I wondered what I had done to deserve this while trying to recall what time the people in the next tent had finally shut up for the night. Though I silently cursed Anthony for this, I accepted responsibility for my own poor decisions and crawled out of the tent.

It all began over beers, as so many of these things do.

When Anthony Gagne began talking about making an attempt on Mount Rainier via the Emmons-Winthrop route, my rubber arm didn't need much of a twist. Frank Spears had already committed to the trip, making it an easy sell for Adam Hawkins, our lone American team member. We started talking logistics and decided that Anthony and I would fly down on the 28th, while Frank and Adam would drive, picking us up in Vancouver with our packs.

Then, we got the bad news—Anthony's application for coveted camping spot at Camp Schurman had been denied. But with flights booked we rallied (over more beer) to discuss options and came up with plans "A" through "E", depending on what happened with the weather and camping permits.

On Friday, June 28th, our first choice was confirmed: Adam had been successful in getting a walk-in permit for high camp covering Saturday through Monday nights. We were feeling like luck was now on our side as the mountainweather.com website suggested at least one potential good weather window for our stay on the morning of Sunday the 30th, with a less desirable window on Monday, July 1st.

At 4,392m above sea level, Mount Rainier is the highest of the Cascade Volcanoes and with over 60 routes and variations, there are a lot of ways to get to this summit. We chose the Emmons-Winthrop route because, although it is very physically demanding, it is technically easier than some routes (but not a simple trudge).

The Emmons-Winthrop route is so named because it ascends the conjoined Emmons and Winthrop glaciers, split by Steamboat Prow, where Camp Schurman is located. The first recorded ascent was in 1884 by Warner Forbes, George James, and Richard O. Wells.

Saturday, June 29th — going in

After mandatory orientation at the White River Ranger Station, we rearranged our gear and our packs for "Plan A", high camp. Loaded with a four-day supply of food and gear, we set out for Glacier Basin, almost 6km away. Adam's sister joined for this stretch as day-hiking porter, helping with our gear. The Glacier Basin hike provides plenty of elevation gain as well as views of Mount Rainier and the crevasses of the lower Emmons Glacier—well worth doing on a clear day even if you aren't continuing to Camp Schurman. We pulled into high camp mid-afternoon, having achieved more than 1,500 metres of elevation gain. Setting up among the existing tents and dug out spots, we began work on dinner and discussed options for Sunday, eventually deciding to take a rest day to adjust to the altitude and rest up for our attempt.

Sunday, June 30th – rest day

Taking Sunday as a day of rest, we prepared our packs and systems, watched groups climb the route, ate and hydrated. We observed a huge variation in group size and speed on the route, and there was general concern around the camp for those who had not returned by mid-afternoon. Clouds shrouded the lower glaciers before moving across high camp, bringing the threat of thunderstorms. We were able to gather valuable route information from returning groups before heading to an early bed, well before sunset. After about 5 hours of napping in a raucous campground, we got up at 11:30pm to ready our attempt.

Monday, Jul 1st – Summit Day

Within the hour we had roped up and were on our way by headlamp, shortly after 12:30am. On the mountain above we could see groups who had left before us, identifiable as lines of headlamps in the darkness. Frank took the lead, and over the next few hours we advanced up the mountain methodically, following the track laid by previous groups. Things got spicy as we traversed narrow snow ledges with high consequence fall potential. We watched the sun rising over the country around us as we named the Cascade volcanoes we could make out—Baker and Glacier being quite prominent.

As we ascended, the effects of the altitude on Anthony were hard to ignore. His energy began to flag, he slowed down noticeably and complained of nausea. We kept going and we were able to overtake a couple of other groups on the route. At one point, without warning, we could see an object tumbling down the mountain towards us: a pair of ski goggles, which I easily caught and stowed in my jacket.

The goggle's owner was not alone in dropping pieces of equipment. On two separate occasions I had shouted "Frank! Glove!" as one of his gloves tumbled down the glacier into the darkness below. Thankfully, Frank had brought a backup pair of gloves, managing to lose one right and one left glove from each pair.

Just below the bergschrund, the main track went up and to the left. We had observed most parties taking this track yesterday, as well as all the groups ahead today, but Frank said that this didn't seem right. Instead of waiting here behind several groups, he led us off to the right and across narrow snow bridges to the shoulder between the summits of Columbia Crest and Liberty Cap. His route-finding paid off, and after taking a break so that Anthony was able to continue with us, we were able to continue up the summit block to the summit of Rainier. With the sun shining brightly, all four of us stood grinning on the peak.

Frank, Adam, and I refuelled while we all sat at the marked boulder with the summit registry. On our way down from the summit my 8 am alarm went off, my reminder to turn around had we not made the summit. On our way back down to the shoulder, I met the climber who lost their goggles and made their return.

The Descent

Descent can never be assumed. Although the track down was well established, we had over 1,400m to descend to camp, and a further 1,600m to descend to the parking lot. We crossed the narrow





Tents at Camp Schuman high camp. | Tentes au camp d'altitude Schuman. Photo Frank Spears.

snow bridges to the track beneath the ice falls quickly (no time for photos of the giant snow gargoyle) as large overhanging cornices were being warmed by the sun. Lower down, there were two places we'd noted as pinch points watching groups the previous day. Negotiating the narrow snow ledge was trickier than when we were on our way up, as it began to lose cohesion under our feet. We twisted an ice screw in for protection, and the ledge maintained enough stability for all four of us to cross safely. The second pinch point was a firm track through crevasses, but that was over before we realised it.

As we descended, Anthony was slowly regained his energy, and was able to eat a small lunch on returning to Camp Schurman. After an hour's break we packed up camp and said goodbye to our home for the past couple of days. As we crossed the lower Emmons Glacier to Camp Curtis, clouds formed in the sky, blocking the sun as well as our view of the summit and other groups descending. Crossing onto the Inter Glacier we packed away crampons and started to relax a little as we plunge stepped and boot-skied down, down, down, passing various guided groups. Trying to follow the trail exactly as we had ascended proved pointless until it became a single trail just before the Glacier Basin camp.

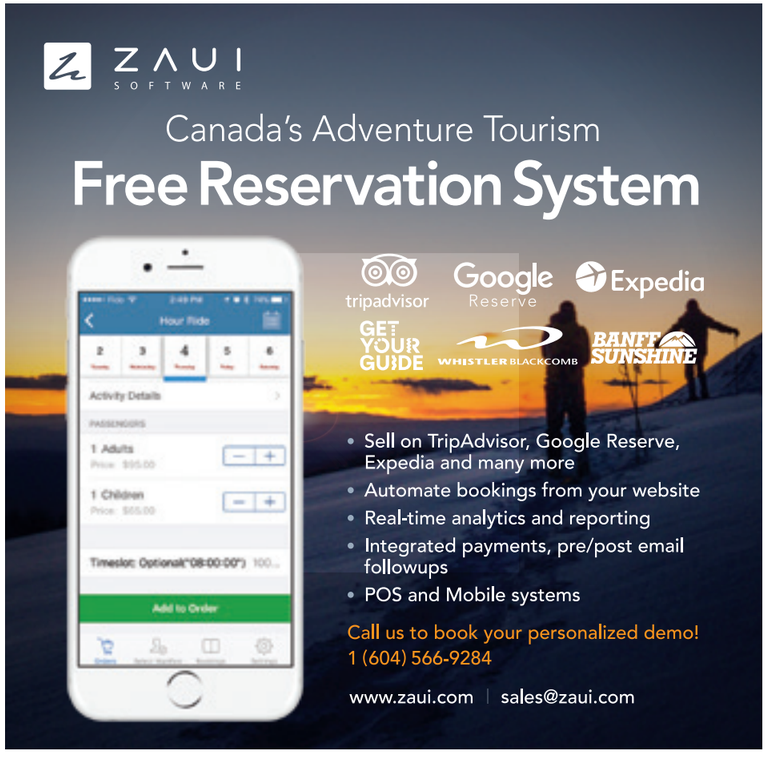
During the climb Frank had tweaked an old injury, so, even with the wide-open hiking trail, our descent took a couple of hours. None of us complained about having to take this trail slowly however, as we were all feeling pretty tired and sore. Back at the cars, we ditched our packs and gratefully enjoyed beers that Adam had left in his car. With the cloud cover in the afternoon, they weren't even all that warm!

At the local tavern that evening we made short work of burgers and fries, reflected on the trip, and began scheming for future adventures.

There were a number of takeaways that we brought back from our Rainier adventure. The first is that overcoming a busy campground schedule can take time. We persevered and were rewarded. Second, when we decided to take an extra day at high camp it allowed us to get valuable information from other groups and to really enjoy our time on the mountain. Third, we gained information from other parties, but when we thought it was right, we broke away from the crowd and took our own path. It was great to be able to draw on Frank's experience and find a more reasonable route to the peak. Fourth, and most simply, we were reminded to keep things leashed, attached, and secured. Lost gear could have ended our attempt.

Finally, a team on a mountain succeeds or fails together. I think we all knew this already, but there were points where Anthony was really struggling where this was tested. He even suggested that we leave him behind in a bivy while Frank, Adam, and I got the summit from the shoulder. Instead, Frank gave him some energy chews, and we made sure he was well hydrated, so we could summit as we had started - as a team. In the end, together we had ascended more than 1,500m and descended over 3,100m after summiting Mt Rainier in a single day.

ACC members Chris Wagner, Anthony Gagne, and Frank Spears adventure out of the Prince George section, where Seattle native Adam Hawkins also hangs his crampons.





Montée au lever du soleil. | Ascending at sunrise. Photo Chris Wagner

Une fête du Canada au mont Rainier

Passer la fête du Canada à monter vers le sommet du mont Rainier à Washington, pourquoi pas? Cela semblait assez logique aux yeux de trois membres de la section Prince George et d'une cohorte d'Américains. Malgré la surréservation des terrains de camping, les gants échappés et le mal de l'altitude pour se mettre en travers de leurs plans, vont-ils persévérer?

par Chris Wagner

Déclenchée à 23 h 30, l'alarme me sortit du confort de mon sac de couchage dans la nuit froide et noire. En me retournant, je me demandai ce que j'avais fait pour mériter ça en tâchant de me souvenir de l'heure où le bavardage de l'autre tente avait enfin cessé pour la nuit. Même si j'en voulais à Anthony, j'assumai mes propres mauvaises décisions en rampant hors de la tente.

Tout avait commencé par une tournée de bières, comme souvent.

Quand Anthony Gagne s'était mis à parler d'essayer le mont Rainier depuis la voie d'Emmons-Winthrop, on n'avait pas eu à me forcer la main. La présence acquise de Frank Spears pour le voyage était un bon argument de vente pour Adam Hawkins, le seul Américain du groupe. En abordant les questions logistiques, nous décidâmes Anthony et moi d'arriver par vol le 28 pendant que Frank et Adam prendraient la route et nous cueilleraient à Vancouver avec nos paquets.

Puis les mauvaises nouvelles sont arrivées avec la demande refusée d'Anthony pour un emplacement convoité au camp Schurman. Mais avec nos vols déjà réservés (et davantage de bière), nous nous sommes ralliés pour discuter de nos choix et concevoir des plans allant de « a » à « e » en tenant compte du temps qu'il pourrait faire et des permis de camping.

Le vendredi 28 juin, Adam réussit à obtenir un permis de visite au camp d'altitude pour les nuits de samedi à lundi, notre plan « a ». La chance sembla revenir de notre côté avec l'annonce (sur le site Web mountainweather.com) d'une fenêtre météo possiblement bonne pour notre séjour du dimanche le 30 au matin, avec des conditions moins propices le lendemain.

À 4 392 m d'altitude, le mont Rainier est le point culminant de la chaîne des Cascades, et avec plus d'une soixantaine de voies et de variations, il y a beaucoup de façons d'accéder au sommet. Bien qu'elle est très exigeante physiquement, nous avions choisi la voie Emmons-Winthrop parce qu'elle présentait moins de difficultés techniques (même si elle est bien plus qu'une marche éprouvante).

Cette voie se nomme Emmons-Winthrop parce qu'elle monte les glaciers Emmons et Winthrop, séparés par Steamboat proue, où se trouve le camp Schurman. La première ascension enregistrée remonte à 1884, avec Warner Forbes, George James et Richard O. Wells.

Samedi 29 juin — le départ

Après l'orientation obligatoire à la station White River Ranger, nous

réarrangeâmes notre équipement et nos sacs pour notre « plan a », le camp d'altitude. Chargés de provisions pour quatre jours et d'équipement, nous sommes partis vers le glacier Basin, à près de 6 km. La sœur d'Adam était avec nous pour cette étape, aidant au transport des bagages. Le trajet du glacier Basin fournit un grand gain d'altitude ainsi que des vues du mont Rainier et des crevasses de la partie basse du glacier Emmons qui valent le détour même sans aller jusqu'au camp Schurman. Nous nous sommes arrêtés au camp d'altitude au cœur de l'après-midi après avoir atteint 1 500 mètres d'élévation. Nous installant parmi les tentes et les endroits creusés, nous préparâmes notre repas en discutant de nos options pour le lendemain, en décidant finalement de prendre un jour de repos afin de reprendre des forces et nous adapter au changement d'altitude.

Dimanche 30 juin – jour de repos

Nous avons préparé nos packs et nos systèmes, observé des groupes escalader la voie, avons mangé et nous sommes hydratés. La taille et la vitesse des groupes variaient largement; une inquiétude s'emparait du camp pour ceux qui n'étaient pas revenus en milieu d'après-midi. Des nuages couvraient les glaciers inférieurs avant de monter et traverser le camp d'altitude, apportant la menace d'orages violents. Nous avons pu obtenir d'importantes informations de parcours de la part des groupes qui étaient revenus avant de nous coucher à l'avance, bien avant la tombée de la nuit. Cinq heures de sieste dans ce camp agité plus tard, nous nous sommes levés à 23 h 30 pour préparer notre essai.

Lundi 1er juillet – Jour du sommet

Une heure nous a suffi pour que, attachés et équipés de lampes frontales, nous nous mettions en route. Au-dessus de nos têtes, les groupes partis avant nous formaient des queues de lampes frontales dans l'obscurité.

Sous la direction de Frank à l'avant, nous avançâmes avec méthode en montant quelques heures, suivant la piste laissée par les groupes précédents. La situation se corsa avec la traversée d'étroites corniches de neige pouvant entraîner des chutes très graves. Nous avons regardé le soleil se lever sur le paysage alentour pendant que nous tâchions de nommer les volcans de la chaîne des Cascades que nous reconnaissions — les monts Glacier et Baker bien en évidence.

Pendant l'ascension, l'altitude atteignait Anthony de plus en plus. Son énergie faiblissait, il ralentissait nettement le pas et se plaignait de nausées. Mais nous avons continué et même dépassé quelques groupes en chemin. À un moment et sans avertissement, nous avons vu un objet dégringoler vers nous : des lunettes de ski que je saisis au vol pour les ranger dans mon manteau.

Le détenteur de ces lunettes n'était pas le seul à laisser tomber de l'équipement. À deux reprises j'ai crié à Frank qu'un de ses gants dévalait le glacier. Par chance, Frank s'était muni d'une paire supplémentaire et débrouillé pour perdre le gant gauche d'une paire et le gant droit de l'autre.

Directement sous la rimaye, la piste principale montait du côté gauche. Tout comme la veille, la plupart des groupes empruntaient cette voie, mais Frank s'en méfiait. Au lieu d'attendre là derrière plusieurs groupes, il nous guida vers la droite à travers d'étroits ponts de neige jusqu'à l'épaule située entre les sommets de Columbia Crest et de Liberty Cap. C'était un choix réussi, et après la pause qui permettrait à Anthony de rester avec nous, nous avons continué jusqu'au sommet de Rainier où, debout, nous avons souri tous les quatre sous le soleil éclatant.

Frank, Adam et moi avons refait le plein d'énergie sur le rocher marqué avec le registre du sommet. Pendant que nous descendions du sommet, mon cadran sonna l'alarme de 8 heures, rappelant qu'il aurait fallu rebrousser chemin si nous n'avions pas atteint le sommet. En redescendant vers l'épaule, je croisai le grimpeur qui avait perdu ses lunettes et je les lui rendis.

La descente

On ne peut jamais présumer d'une descente. Malgré une piste bien établie, plus de 1 400 m d'altitude nous séparaient du camp, en plus des 1 600 m vers l'aire de stationnement. Nous avons traversé rapidement les étroits ponts de neige vers la piste sous les chutes de glace. Pas le temps de photographier l'immense gargouille de glace alors qu'en surplomb de grandes corniches se font chauffer par le soleil. Plus bas encore se trouvaient deux endroits que nous avions identifiés, en observant les groupes de la veille, comme des points de pincement. Négocier l'étroit rebord de neige demandait plus de ruse à la descente, car il perdait sa cohésion sous nos pas. Après l'installation d'une broche à glace pour nous protéger, la corniche demeura suffisamment stable pour qu'on la traverse. Une piste ferme parmi des crevasses présentait l'autre point de pincement, mais nous en sommes sortis avant même de l'avoir remarqué.

Anthony reprenait tranquillement ses forces et put manger un petit repas une fois revenu au camp Schurman. Après une heure de pause, nous remballions notre camp et disions au revoir à ce qui avait été notre demeure ces derniers jours. En traversant la partie basse du glacier Emmons vers le camp Curtis, des nuages se formèrent, bloquant le soleil, cachant notre vue du sommet et des groupes qui descendaient. Passant maintenant au glacier Inter, nous avons remballé nos crampons et nous sommes détendus en faisant des bonds et du ski sur bottes pendant la descente, en dépassant divers groupes guidés. Il était inutile de respecter la piste que nous avions suivie pendant l'ascension avant qu'elle se réduise à une piste unique près du camp du glacier Basin.

Une ancienne blessure de Fred, ranimée pendant l'ascension, ralentissait notre descente malgré le sentier de randonnée grand ouvert. Personne toutefois ne s'est plaint de la lenteur, tant nous étions endoloris et fatigués. Revenus à nos voitures, nous avons rangé nos paquets et savouré avec gratitude les bières qu'Adam avait laissées dans sa voiture et que les nuages de l'après-midi avaient gardées au frais.

À la taverne du coin ce soir-là, nos hamburgers et nos frites furent engloutis pendant que nous revenions sur notre expérience et commencions de planifier nos prochaines aventures.

Cette expédition à Rainier nous avait apporté quelques leçons à retenir. La première est que se battre contre l'horaire chargé d'un terrain de campement peut prendre du temps, mais notre persévérance l'avait emporté. Deuxièmement, notre journée de repos au camp d'altitude nous avait permis de bien nous informer auprès des autres groupes et de profiter pleinement de nos moments en montagne. Troisièmement, l'information que nous avions obtenue des autres ne nous avait pas empêchés de nous détacher de la foule pour emprunter le chemin que nous avions jugé bon. C'était génial de pouvoir compter sur l'expérience de Fred et de choisir une meilleure voie vers le sommet. Quatrièmement, nous nous sommes rappelé l'importance de tenir nos objets en laisse, attachés et sécurisés, car perdre de l'équipement aurait pu mettre fin à notre tentative.

Et pour finir : en montagne, c'est unie qu'une équipe réussit ou échoue. Je pense que nous savions tous déjà ce principe, mais les moments de réel malaise d'Anthony en avaient été le test. Anthony avait même proposé qu'on le laisse dans un bivouac pendant que Frank, Adam et moi passerions de l'épaule au sommet. Au lieu de quoi, Frank lui avait donné des bouchées énergétiques, nous nous étions assurés qu'Anthony soit bien hydraté, et nous avions pu monter au sommet comme nous avions commencé : en formant une équipe. À l'arrivée, nous avions gravi plus de 1 500 m et descendu plus de 3 100 m après avoir atteint le sommet du mont Rainier, le tout en une seule journée.

Membres du CAC, Chris Wagner, Anthony Gagne et Frank Spears s'aventurent hors de la section Prince George, où Adam Hawkins, originaire de Seattle, accroche aussi ses crampons.





ACC Partner Profile – **Osprey Packs**

Editor's note: The ACC works closely with a number of outdoor equipment manufacturers that share our goals and that help us to fulfill our mandate. This section profiles an ACC partner, what they do for the club and what it means to our membership.

Packs are about as ubiquitous an item as an outdoor person can own. At the ACC office we use them for our computers, our tools, our ropes, our expeditions and our business trips. This year we are very happy to welcome Osprey, with their innovative, quality packs, as the *Official Pack Partner of the ACC.*

Osprey has quickly and seamlessly woven into the fabric of the ACC, from supporting outings, hut maintenance and our sections. Check it out:

Girls on Ice Canada

Well-established in the US for the past 20 years, Girls on Ice is a tuition-free, science-immersion, wilderness expedition for high school girls that will, among other things, inspire our next generation of female glacier scientists. Its unique model interweaves science, art and adventure to inspire Canadian teenage girls who would not typically have access to such experiences.

The ACC partners with GOIC and throws in our resources to make it happen. The girls don't have packs and that's where our partner Osprey comes in – donating packs to ensure that all the girls are equipped.

The ACC and Osprey are committed to GOIC because we know that there can be significant barriers to young women in accessing mountain and science programs. And our community, our country and our world are better when young women have access to programs that educate, connect and build confidence.



GOIC 2019 participants (L-R) Sarah, Mireille and Emma with their Osprey packs.
Photo Lauren Bains

Our community, our country and our world are better when young women have access to programs that educate, connect and build confidence.

If you're hiking up to the glaciers in Rogers Pass next summer and meet up with a group of girls in matching Osprey packs, give them a wave.

ACC Maintenance Team

Maintaining the largest network of backcountry huts in North America (26 national huts and growing) involves a lot of packing and unpacking of tools, equipment and supplies and dragging those bits into the backcountry and back (think saws and drills, plumbing parts and a week's food).

Osprey stepped up and replaced all of our mixed bags and worn bins with Transporter 130 Expedition Duffels that protect our maintenance goods from the elements, scree slopes and hungry critters from shop to truck to helicopter to hut and back. This helps.

Member specials

Osprey set us up with a small run of their Mutant 22 pack to brand with the ACC logo and sell to our members. They sold out quickly, but we're looking at doing this again next year so stay tuned.

Osprey is also going to be helping out the volunteer leaders at our 25 local sections as well. Volunteer trip leaders will be able to order Osprey packs at a special discount, details of which are online at www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/sectionbenefits.

We thank Osprey for their vision and values and for their commitment to alpine pursuits, youth science expeditions and our day-to-day operations.



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The ACC Community Gives Back:
Facing Fears and Paying Lessons Forward

By Beth Frank



Anne Anderson has a selection of climbing photos hung in her bathroom. "It's so I can look at them first thing in the morning to remind myself to 'think young'."

But even at age 82, Anne doesn't need much reminding. People will tell you she's young at heart and in spirit, too.

Anne was in her mid-fifties before she began climbing. "I really just wanted to learn how to hike better, so I went to an ACC meeting with a friend. The leader told me to take the introductory mountaineering course. Another climber said he'd lend me his wife's equipment. I took the course but thought I could do a better job, so I took it a second time."

And thus began a decades-long love of climbing mountains, traversing glaciers and participating in ACC adventures.

Although she spent most of her life in Edmonton, Anne grew up on the prairies in Medicine Hat. "When I was young, we spent all our summers climbing down into the coulees to explore. Later, I learned to climb up," she laughs.

Her first ACC trip occurred shortly after she retired from teaching. Led by former club president Peter Fuhrman, the group explored the Rockies, stopping a night at Abbot Pass Hut. "The area was so beautiful, and I just loved that hut. It was so historic."

She's since attended General Mountaineering Camps and completed the Wapta Traverse. "I think I liked the cross-country trips best, because you could experience a whole range of mountains and glaciers – the full expanse of the terrain."

Anne also volunteered for the Edmonton Section, serving as secretary for about 10 years. "I told them it was time to step down as they needed someone younger who could still 'dance on the tables.' They said, 'OK, so you'll do it for another year then'."

Climbing teaches you many things, she says. How to be prepared. How to work with a team. How to overcome fears.

"I remember Peter Fuhrman making us walk along a log to get across a raging stream. My mind was telling me to walk back home, but my body just kept going one step at a time. It's an analogy I still use in my life. When I need to conquer my fears or meet a challenge, I think to myself 'just cross that log'."

Anne admits it wasn't easy to take up climbing when she did. But she got lots of encouragement from ACC members, team leaders and guides. "I'm really pleased to see more young people joining the club, so they won't miss out on all those years of enjoyment that I missed before I joined the club."

Since she's retired, Anne has shared the lessons she's learned in the mountains with classrooms of kids.

"I took my climbing gear and a video into the classroom. I taught the kids about the importance of teamwork and citizenship – being ready, being on time, working hard. The kids loved it – one sent me a funny cartoon as a thank-you note. It was of a TV screen with the full mountain story behind it."

Anne regularly donates to the ACC's annual fund, has donated to the Mountain Guides Ball and has a bequest to the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides (ACMG) in her will. "I wanted to donate to the training of the mountain guides. They do an amazing job and I really appreciate the experiences they gave me."

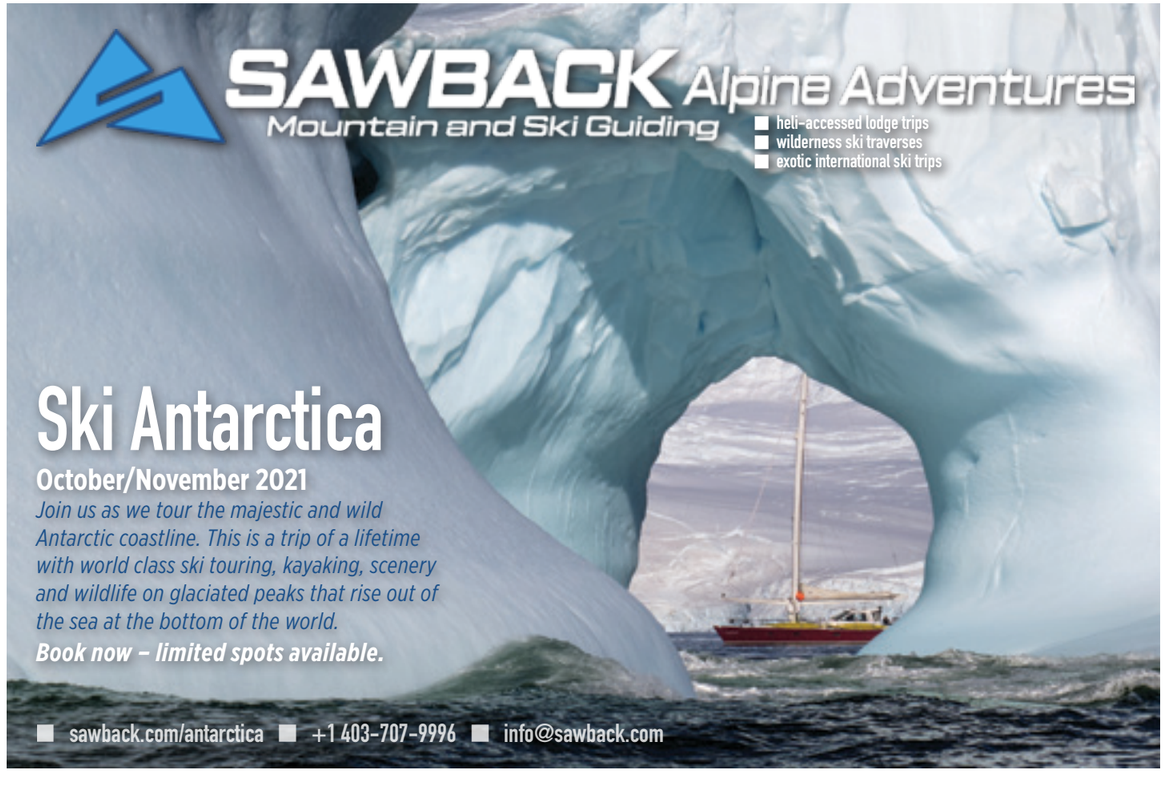
Although she stopped climbing a few years ago, Anne continues to donate to the club. She thinks of it as continuing to pay her membership.

"The club was a real gift. It opened up a wonderful world for me."

Above: Anne with other club members the Battle Range GMC in 2010. Photo Helen Sovdat

Below: A thank-you card from a student who heard her talk on teamwork.







The Back Page

Lest we forget...

by Dean Albrecht

A chance discovery connects an early pioneer of The Alpine Club of Canada with a family sacrifice in "the war to end all wars".



This story begins with a battered old envelope that was found in a stamp collection, the contents long lost. It was postmarked July of 1917 and addressed to Miss D. Mitchell in Winnipeg, the letter was then redirected to the Alpine Club House, Banff, Alberta.

Also written in fading ink was; "On Active Service July 7, 1917 Private". The envelope had been roughly opened and re-sealed with paper tape then stamped "Passed Field Censor 3087".

These clues revealed it was a letter from a Canadian soldier, serving on the front lines of World War I, sent home through the military mail.

If the Mitchell name is familiar, it is likely because Stanley Mitchell was one of the ACC's founders and its first secretary; the club's Stanley Mitchell Hut is named for him. Dorothy Mitchell, to whom the letter was addressed, was Stanley's niece.

The author of the letter was Dorothy's brother Jack Mitchell. Jack enlisted in the Canadian Infantry upon his 18th birthday in September of 1914 and by 1918 rose to the rank of Captain. Within a few weeks of writing the letter, his unit engaged in the battle of Amiens after which he received the Military Cross "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a raid."

Dorothy Mitchell, or Dot as the family called her, was six years older than Jack. She was an avid mountaineer and graduated into the ACC's full membership with an ascent of The President at the 1914 camp in Upper Yoho Valley, the site of the Stanley Mitchell Hut today (membership in the early ACC required climbing a peak over 10,000 feet).

During the year of Jack's letter, Dorothy served as Manitoba Section Secretary. The Winnipeg social columns often reported on Dorothy's travels to ACC camps up to 1921, but her life took a different course after then.

We can only speculate, but perhaps that was due to her brother Jack. You see, he never made it home from Europe. In late September of 1918, almost at the War's end, Capt. Jack Mitchell participated in an advance near Cambrai, France. His unit was forced to withdraw under fire when an artillery barrage came down on their position, then ordered to reclaim the same ground, and experienced heavy losses. Jack was admitted to a Casualty Clearing Station, listed as "dangerously wounded", and didn't survive the night. He died on Sept. 29, 1918, at the age of 22 and was buried at the Bucquoy Road Cemetery near Arras.

Dorothy went on to complete her training as a teacher at Columbia University in New York. She joined the Anglican Mission in Peking in 1924 and became part a growing movement of single women engaged in missionary work throughout Asia.

She frequently returned to Winnipeg on holidays and spoke to service groups about her work in China. Sadly, tragedy seemed to stalk her family. Dorothy's mother never recovered from the death of Jack and passed away soon after her son. Dot's other brother, Hugh, had died at the age of 31, and her father succumbed to injuries from a car accident in 1935.

Uncle Stanley Mitchell had retired to Victoria, B.C., where he lived until his death in 1940, so perhaps that is why Dorothy decided to settle in nearby Sooke. Having never married, she always maintained her association with the ACC and achieved the distinction of being a 50-year member. Dot passed away on June 28, 1966, at the age of 76. Her life and achievements were noted in the 1967 edition of The *Canadian Alpine Journal*.

Dorothy and Jack shared a need to serve and desire for adventure, but their genders and the times dictated different paths. If one accepts as "heroic" someone who demonstrated courage in the face of adversity and personal sacrifice for a greater cause, its becomes clear they both should be remembered as heroes.

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Squamish, British Columbia

"This was a sunny October trip with European climbers Jorg Verhoeven and Katha Saurwein on their North American tour. Jorg is taping and preparing for an attempt on Tainted Love (5.13d). No details are left behind in the preparation of a climb."

~ Photos and words: Jon Glassberg



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