

ACC Vancouver Section Annual General Meeting

Minutes – November 25, 2003

Floral Hall – Van Dusen Gardens

Chaired by: Liz Scremin; Election of New Executive Chaired by: Irene Goldstone

AGENDA

Liz called the formal meeting to order about 8:00 PM.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liz opened the meeting with some general announcements, including upcoming trips, camps and film events, then outlined the remainder of the meeting agenda, starting with Position Reports.

II. REPORTS:

1. **Treasurer (Rob Brusse):** Rob presented a short summary of the Section finances. More detailed financial statements for the year ended 31 Oct 2003 will be published in the Echoes newsletter. Overall, Section finances are in good health. Membership revenue increased slightly from the previous year, while camp revenues were down compared to last year, mainly due to the poor winter weather. Tantalus Hut operations have had a noted increase in revenue to about \$7k due to increased number of visitors, camps and private group bookings.
2. **Skills Development (Zoran Vasic):** The Section ran a total of 16 skills development courses and workshops this past year, including several multi-day events. Courses included winter camping, snow caving, mountain weather, map & compass, leadership development, backcountry skiing, climbing, orienteering. Several courses were run in cooperation with professional groups such as the St. John Ambulance Wilderness First Aid course. There are plans for a number of workshops in 2004.
3. **National Club Rep (Fern Hietkamp):** Fern reported on several items at the National level of the Alpine Club of Canada. The National Board met in November and approved a general fee increase to all members. A single membership will increase by \$6 and a family membership will increase by \$8 in 2004. The increase has resulted from several factors including increases in liability insurance, and to more directly cover the administrative costs of membership that were formerly subsidized by a portion of hut revenues. The National Safety Committee has continued work on updating the trip waiver policy and procedures. Fern reminded everyone it is very important for all trip participants to sign a waiver form, and for organizers to return the completed waiver form to the Climbing Chair.
4. **Socials (Chris Bradley):** Chris coordinates the food and beverages for the monthly members socials, and thanked all who brought food for this evening's potluck. Chris announced he plans to step down this year from the position and a new Socials Coordinator is needed.
5. **Program (Isabel Budke):** Isabel reported on a successful year of guests and slide shows at the monthly meetings. Coming up in January is Ian Bruce with a presentation on his "*Defrost in the Alpine*" project. For the February meeting, another 'Skillsfest' evening is being organized. Anyone interested in presenting a skill specialty is invited to contact Isabel.
6. **FMCBC Rep (Richard Keltie):** Richard is a FMCBC Director and the Vancouver Section Rep at meetings of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC this past year. The FMCBC role remains one of protecting the backcountry environment and access for non-motorized recreation. Vancouver Section member Manrico Scremin is the FMCBC President. This year the FMCBC moved to focus its mandate and divested the Canada West Mountain School (CWMS). The FMCBC will be moving into office space at Mountain Equipment Coop to save on costs. Richard also reported on one specific access issue regarding trailhead parking above Lions Bay; Pat Harrison met recently with the mayor and council of Lions Bay in an effort to resolve parking and related access and sanitation concerns.
7. **Membership (Susan D'Aloisio):** Near the end of 2003, Vancouver Section membership totals about 525 single and family memberships, or equivalently about 650 individual members. However, membership renewal rates are down a bit, and Susan encouraged everyone to renew their membership despite the fee increase coming in 2004.

- 8. Camps (Richard Keltie):** Richard also acts as Camps Coordinator for the Section. This past year, the Section ran several Section camps including Tantalus Lake Lovelywater, Mt. Waddington area, and Roger's Pass. The National camps continue to be popular and Richard reminded anyone interested in going to book early. There are plans to hold camps in 2004 similar to those this past year including Tantalus and Roger's Pass.
- 9. Echoes (Steve Wickham):** Steve Wickham and Helen Habgood were co-editors for the Avalanche Echoes newsletter this past year, but are looking for new faces to help with editing and production. Gerard Cheong has stepped forward to help in the new year.
- 10. Quartermaster (Rob Brusse):** Rob is also acting as the Section Quartermaster. The Section has several items of kit for rent to members including avalanche beacons, satellite phone, 6-person expedition tent, megamid tent, and the club First Aid kit (which is presently missing).
- 11. Program (Isabel Budke):** Isabel was responsible for organizing the speakers and slide shows at the monthly social, and thanked all those who contributed to this years successful program. Isabel reported she will be stepping down from the position, but expects to continue assisting a new Program Coordinator.
- 12. Access & Environment (Mary Henderson):** Mary reported on Access and Environment issues over the past year. She has continued participating in the Sea-to-Sky Forums to preserve winter and summer non-motorized access to mountain alpine areas. A deadline of Dec. 2003 has been set by the BC Provincial Government to finalize an access and use agreement. Mary reported that much progress has been made among the user groups, but there are still challenges on access issues, especially from commercial operators. Mary is stepping down after this year and Henny Coates will be taking over the work and this position for 2004.
- 13. Climbing Chair (Fern for Pam Krannitz):** Fern gave a summary of Section trips and workshops for Pam. There were 124 trips and workshops, organized by 60 individual members. Last winter was fair for trips, with a low snow pack, while the summer was good, with hot and sunny weather; however, the backcountry was closed for 2 weeks over the popular Labour Day holiday weekend. Fern conveyed thanks to all who organized trips and workshops, and drew gifts for members who volunteered three or more trips/workshops over the course of the year.
- 14. Secretary (Tony Knight):** Tony looks after writing the minutes for Executive meetings, and is quartermaster for the Section's satellite phone. The satellite phone has been popular with members for longer trips. It was rented a total of 11 weeks this past year, including one trip to Mt. Logan. Tony also coordinates the Email notification for the downloadable version of the Avalanche Echoes. Anyone wishing to download the newsletter in PDF format on the Internet can contact Tony or email to accvanem@telus.net to be added. This saves the Section some postage costs, and the PDF version is available sooner and in colour.

15. **Chairperson's Report (Liz Scremin):** Liz reported on the highlights of this past year of Section activities as follows:

- (a) Section Events. Liz thanked trip leaders and workshop organizers for the variety of events organized this year, ranging from traditional camps, to mountain painting and photography, several indoor workshops, and a successful leadership evening and weekend organized by Fern Hietkamp.
- (b) Jim Haberl Memorial Hut. Liz reported that fund-raising is now completed. Plans were finalized and construction started this summer, beginning with the outhouse. Prefabrication of the main building is planned for early 2004, with on-site installation in the summer.
- (c) John Clarke. Liz noted the passing of long-time and honorary member John Clarke on Jan. 23, 2003. John received the Order of Canada in 2002 for his mountaineering, conservation and education achievements. John is only the 4th person in the mountaineering community to have received this distinction.
- (d) Coast ACC Archives Committee. Progress this year on the archives project slowed due to a stall in the plans of the Whistler Museum and Archives Society for their new building in Whistler. It is still hoped that once it is built, an Alpine Club of Canada Coast Collection will be established there.
- (e) Member Recognition. Irene Goldstone was presented with an ACC 'Heritage Club' distinction, recognizing her 25-years of membership in the ACC.
- (f) Goals for 2004. Liz outlined three goals for 2004: (i) To maintain the Section membership to over 500 total memberships; (ii) Organizing more trips, workshops and camps, including joint camps with the BCMC and Varsity Outdoor Club; (iii) organizing some trail maintenance trips to Lizzie Lake and Lake Lovelywater, (iv) construction of the Jim Haberl Hut, (v) establishment of the partnership with the Whistler Museum and Archives Society, and (vi) a possible new Section Annual.

III. ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE:

16. **New/Ongoing Executive Members (Liz):** Irene Goldstone chaired this portion of the meeting for the election of the new Executive. Irene reported that all of the Section Executive has agreed to stand for re-election. The positions and nominees are as follows:

- (a) Chair – vacant (Liz Scremin acting)
- (b) Secretary – Tony Knight
- (c) Treasurer – Rob Brusse
- (d) Membership – Susan D'Aloisio
- (e) Socials – Fern Hietkamp
- (f) Echoes Editors – Helen Habgood / Steve Wickham / Gerard Cheong
- (g) National Club Rep – Fern Hietkamp
- (h) FMCBC Rep – Richard Keltie
- (i) Program Coordinator – Susan Higginbottom
- (j) Climbing/Trip Schedule – Margaret Hanson
- (k) Camps – Richard Keltie
- (l) Skills Development – Sue Baldwin
- (m) Access and Environment – Henny Coates
- (n) Promotion – Jay MacArthur

There being no further nominations, it was moved and seconded that the above members be elected as the Vancouver Section Executive for the year 2004.

The annual meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM. A slide show on the past summer camps organized by Rob Brusse, Don Serl and Peter Woodsworth followed.