



NEWSLETTER

Alpine Club of Canada

Toronto Section

Winter
2000

Upcoming Events

**February 5: Ice Climbing;
Fish Lake**

Contact: Dave Britnell @
905-884-3842

**February 6: Back
Country Skiing; Mount
Dhaulagiri**

Contact: Paul Geddes @
905-821-9625

**February 17 - 20: Ice
Climbing; Adirondacks**

Contact: Dave Britnell @
905-884-3842

**February 19 - 20:
Snowshoe/winter camping
for beginners; Severn
Falls**

Contact: Larry Forsyth @
905-825-3356

**February 19-20: Ice
climbing and winter
camping; Schooner Lake**

Contact: Martin le Roux @
905-465-1525

**March 4-5: Ice Climbing,
Diamond Lake**

Contact - Dave Britnell @
905 884-3842

**March 10-11: Snowshoe/
winter camping,
Algonquin Park**

Contact: Willa Harasym @
905-821-9625

**March 16 - 19: Ice
Climbing; Orient Bay**

Contact: Martin le Roux @
905-465-1525



View of Diamond Lake March 1999

Skiing In And From The East

by: Paul Geddes

Skills honed in eastern North America are readily transferable to the long powder runs of the western mountains. I strapped on my first pair of skis forty years ago and have skied every year since then.

During the 1960's as a child, I learned to alpine ski at the lift-serviced hills in the Laurentians, north of Montreal. Long before I would have an understanding of mountaineering, I made my first ascent on Mount Washington, in New Hampshire to Tuckermans Ravine (a favourite spring hike-to-ski destination).

In the 1970's, bored with downhill skiing in the east I made my first trip to Whistler. It was on this trip that I got a sense that there was some attraction beyond the ski resort boundaries. Back home in Ontario, I concentrated more on cross-country skiing, participating in many loppets in Southern Ontario.

By 1980 my interests were focused on the mountains and I bought my first pair of metal edged double camber Karhu XCD back country skis. It would be a couple of years before I

(Continued on page VII)

Message from the Chair

by Bruce Eidsvik

Well, after a year of working pretty hard on the newsletter, I thought; there must be something on the executive that's less demanding. So I figured that if I could bring my well honed skills of delegation to bear, the Chair might be just the ticket. And I believe, I may well have gotten it right. As it turns out, we have an absolutely great fully staffed executive, who are going to make the job of Chair, a breeze. Further, Larry Forsyth has left the position in good shape. And with Willa Harasym pretending that the ACC is a full time job, there is no excuse for not getting great things done.

We're already off to a good start, I understand Calvin Klatt ran a fun and interesting AGM out at the Dicken's Pub in Milton. Besides electing a new roster of executives, there were some interesting ideas put forward. Highlights include adding a woodburning fireplace at Bon Echo and building a winter hut for ice climbing (at Bon Echo or possibly in the Muskoka/Haliburton area). Calvin has also suggested we look into having Birthday Ridge at Bon Echo named a "Heritage Route" – an excellent idea that we are going to pursue.

You'll see that we have a long list of exciting winter events already scheduled. These events however are popular. The Alpine Climbing short course organised by Willa and Norm Greene is already sold out ! The Roger's Pass trip is nearing capacity as well. So, book your trips early if you don't want to be disappointed.

I also wanted to point out that the Executive doesn't feel like it has the corner on good ideas (we definitely don't – speaking for myself at least). So, if you've got one or a strong opinion on some of our plans or you simply want to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact me. We want to constantly make our section better.

Finally, access issues should always be front and centre in our brains when we are out on the Craggs. We have good relations with the land managers but our access is only a privilege, which can easily be removed. We, as ACC members, have a special responsibility to ensure that we live by the highest standards. When we see abuse, a kind word or action can go a long way to setting things right.

Hope you had a great holiday.

I picked this up from a recent e-mail from Dave Brown, who uncovered a great quote from Alex Lowe.

"The best climber is the one who has the most fun"

Toronto Section Executive

Chairperson	Bruce Eidsvik (416) 489-4663 eidsvik@array.ca
Secretary	Susan Andrew (905) 634-2805 sandrew702@aol.com
Treasurer	Karen McGilvray (416) 422-3643 karen@rockoasis.com
Membership	Eva Fellaga & Gary Eisele (905) 277-5287
Web Site	Allan Hansen (416) 766-0385 ahansen@tse.com
Communications	Clive Cook (416) 922-6648 clivecook@hotmail.com
Section Rep	Willa Harasym (905) 821-9625 Harasym.geddes@sympatico.ca
Newsletter	Erica Valentine (416) 539-9788 e.valentine@utoronto.ca Sandra Bowkun (416) 482-1526 show@it.ca
Bon Echo Hut	Cliff Glover (416) 444-6967 karen@rockoasis.com Kit Moore (416) 469-3567 karen@rockoasis.com
Boat Co-Ord	Chris Rogers (905) 729-4768 crogers@bconnex.net
Rock / Indoor Climbing	Mike Stein (905) 274-3018 michael.stein@cdi.ca
Ice Climbing	Dave Britnell (905) 884-3842 Icefetich@globalserve.net
Mountaineering	Norman Greene (905) 792-7551 nngreene@idirect.com
Access	Trudy Bloem (905) 455-3313 keytab.solutions@sympatico.ca David Myles (416) 222-3251 dmyles@ican.net
Members at Large	
Ray Rutitis	(905) 831-6399
John Carey	(905) 878-1674 jcarey@look.ca
Calvin Klatt	(613) 228-7313 cklatt@istar.ca
Martin le Roux	(905) 465-1525 martinlr@sympatico.ca
Rick Jackson	(905) 688-4839
Donna Clarke	(416) 406-0184 donnalou@interlog.com

Editor's Corner

Erica Valentine/ Sandra Bowkun

Welcome to the first Toronto ACC Newsletter of 2000! We have started out with several changes (see the Executive list)! However, the important things are still the same: Winter is here and again there is so much to do! Please refer to the trips list.

I will certainly miss Bruce on the editing team—he was the one with the magic touch in regards to formatting! With some

fiddling and a little bit a swearing, I finally got it to work or at least look right! Thanks Bruce for all your work and effort and good luck in your new position as Chair.

Deadline for the next newsletter: March 3, 2000

Trading Post

Items for Sale

I have about a dozen BD Big Easy straight gate biners and 6 BD regular length ice screws (NOT Expresses) and one Charlet Moser drive in, for sale. The biners are about 4-5 years old and in good shape, but if folks were concerned about safety, they would definitely be good for racking. The ice screws are like new, being used only for two seasons. I am willing to part with both sets at 1/2 price (as compared to current MEC prices).

Contact Bill at 905 338-3201 (evenings)

Partner Search

I'm looking for a partner(s) for an ice climbing trip to Agawa Canyon in late January. The exact date is flexible, but I hope to drive up to Sault St. Marie on a Thursday, catch the train in on Friday morning, and out again on Sunday or Monday, for a drive back to Toronto/Hamilton on Monday or Tuesday. If you're at all interested and want to discuss the idea you can e-mail me at powerpix@idirect.com . - Peter Power.

Announcements

ACC Montreal Ski House

For the first time in 30 years or so we were unable to renew the lease at our old place in Val David. So we've rented a new ski house in St. Adolphe d'Howard (near Val David). The house is open to all ACC members and their guests to use as a base for x-c skiing, teleskiing, and ice climbing in the Laurentians. It is located on the shores of Lac Vert in St. Adolphe d'Howard. The house is an excellent base for cross-country skiing. The Sapiniere X-Country trail is right outside our front door giving easy access to both the Morin Heights and Viking trail networks. Nearby backcountry telemark destinations include Montagne Noir, Mont Christie, Mont Legault, and many others. The house is a modern two story cottage. There are five bedrooms and plenty of open areas with a combined sleeping space for up to twenty people. Most information can be found at:

<http://www.angelfire.com/pq/accmontreal/skihouse.html>.

2000 Canmore International Ice Climbing Festival

CANMORE, ALBERTA, CANADA. The organizers of the Canmore International Ice Climbing Festival have announced that next year's event will take place February 18-20, 2000. The first ever event, held in February 1999, was a great success

and featured instruction, demonstrations, and presentations by top local and international climbers. Participants came from as far away as Japan to take part. Sessions took place on nearby local ice, as well as an artificial Ice Wall in downtown Canmore with a climbing surface 20 feet high. This year's festival promises to be much bigger and better. Features of this year's event include instruction for all abilities, "Try Ice Climbing" sessions at our downtown ice wall, demonstrations and demo gear by top manufacturers, slide show socials, a North American Speed Competition, and of course the ICE2K Party. The Ice Wall will be substantially higher than last year, which should make the speed competitions all the more exciting. The festival will feature sessions with top international ice climbers Will Gadd and Kim Csizmazia, as well as the local stars including Tim Pochay.

Canmore in the Canadian Rockies is one of the World's Hot Spots for Ice Climbing, a quickly growing sport that has evolved from other forms of climbing into a discipline of its own. The region offers some of the best and most accessible ice climbing available anywhere at all ability levels. This festival offers an opportunity for the ice climbing community to come together in the spirit of fun with our friends and colleagues. The national level of The Alpine Club of Canada is supporting this festival by providing some newsletter advertising space, and by offering our lowest Clubhouse rates to festival participants. The Rocky Mountain Section of the ACC is sponsoring the Ice Wall. We hope to see you out here!

For more information about the festival, contact Mike Meilicke, Festival Director, at (403) 678-1636 or reaosports@telusplanet.net

Social Climbing Nights at Toronto Area Gyms

All Toronto Section members are invited to attend indoor climbing nights at Toronto area gyms. *Rock Oasis* (Bathurst and Front) and *the Toronto Climbing Academy* (Broadview and Danforth) offer club members a discounted night of indoor climbing once a month. These evenings are great fun, with new and experienced members coming out to pull on plastic, and sometimes hoisting a few pints afterwards. They provide a great opportunity to keep in shape and socialize at the same time. *The Rock Oasis* ACC night is the first Tuesday of every month and *Toronto Climbing Academy's* is the third Thursday. *Of Rock and Chalk* is no longer hosting club nights.

ACC members who bring a current membership card on these nights receive a discount of 50%.

Reports

Highlights from the AGM

Sue Andrew

The Annual General Meeting of the Toronto Section was held Sat. Nov. 27 at the Dickens in Milton. About 25 section members enjoyed food, drink and socializing.

Thanks were given to the past executive members for all their hard work and dedication. Long standing members who were present were given a copy of "A History of Swiss Guiding in Canada", a National Club publication celebrating the 100th year of the arrival of the first Swiss guides. The new executive was voted in and members were encouraged to help out wherever they could whether it be organizing section trips or volunteering for the Access Committee.

Birthday Ridge at Bon Echo was climbed forty years ago and the club will endeavor to have it named as a Heritage Route. All section files from the past fifty years are being collected with important original documents being sent to the archives in Banff. Please send any relevant material to the secretary.

National Report

from Willa Harasym, Section Rep

Fresh from the end of November Board meeting and Annual General Meeting, an update of what is happening which may be of interest to the Toronto Section.

- Memberships are at an all time high, in excess of 5000, which means that the actual number of members (remember there is a family category) is likely between 6000 and 7000.
- The financial status of the national club is good, i.e. within budget and break even.
- The Board has approved an initiative to establish the *Canadian Mountaineering Centre (CMC)* to operate out of the National Office. The CMC will plan and provide: mountain experiences and holidays, courses and training at the national level and assisting at section level, safety testing and research, and conferences and seminars. Definitely a development to watch.
- Corporate sponsorships are proving to be very useful in subsidizing specific programming which might not otherwise be able to be run, e.g. The North Face for the summer and winter Leadership Courses, Marmot for a new Women's Mountaineering Program (*check this one Toronto Section women wannabe mountaineers!!!*), Patagonia for the Youth Mountaineering Camps.
- Renovations at the Canmore clubhouse have received a boost from a \$50K Alberta Government grant and a \$15K Rocky Mountain Section donation. Expect more changes there.
- Huts continue to be the revenue life blood of the club. The club has developed a reputation for, and a real skill at, professional management of back country huts. Additional huts may be added.
- A search is underway to source an affordable policy of rescue insurance to be included as a member benefit.

- An updated access/environmental policy for the club is the final drafting stage.
- The year of celebration of the centennial of the Swiss Guides arrival in Canada is drawing to a close. The club was a major partner in the year's activities.
- The year 2000 will include a commemorative climb of Mt. Alberta by a joint Japanese/Canadian team sponsored by the ACC and Japan's national mountaineering authority.
- The national club will soon be embarking on a planned giving program seeking present or future donations to its Endowment Fund.
- If you want further information concerning the above, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact Willa at 905-821-9625.

Red Rocks Matters

Kit Moore

In our Fall Newsletter, I was asked to report on my recent trip to Switzerland with Ian Markham, an old friend and new member in the Toronto section. Our main goal for this trip was to climb the **Matterhorn**, but we also hoped to climb a few other peaks, such as the **Zinalrothorn**, **Trifhorn**, **Leiterspitzen** and **Breithorn**. I was also anxious to spend several days rock-climbing in the **Zermatt** area.

Well, as it turned out, the Matterhorn escaped us on this trip, just as it escaped me on my last trip to Switzerland. Last time I broke my leg and messed up my ankle a few weeks before the intended climb, and this time we ran into serious snow and ice just as we reached the Matterhorn hut. The next morning confirmed our worst fears, as we watched a helicopter pluck two stranded climbers from the rocks higher up and bring them back dangling from a rescue line. Ian will probably go back to tackle the Matterhorn again, so I'm sure he can be coerced to write a detailed Newsletter account of our 1999 trip. As for me, my focus has now shifted even more firmly to rock-climbing, and the Matterhorn no longer fascinates me as it once did. In fact, I've been known to refer to it recently as the Doesn't Matterhorn...

Instead, let me take a minute to update you on Red Rocks climbing, based on a 1-week trip Cliff Glover and I took to Las Vegas this fall. Early in November, Vegas air fares fell to one of their frequent lows - \$268 for a one-week trip - so we snapped up our tickets and made our way to Red Rocks in mid-November. Luckily, the warm weather held and we were able to climb for 7 successive days, including several days in **Black Velvet Canyon**, my favourite Red Rocks location.

For me, the highlight was to tackle a climb known as *Fiddler on the Roof*, particularly the third pitch traversing along the rim of a giant roof on *Black Velvet Wall*. Todd Swain's guidebook gives no grade for this pitch, but mentions that it has a scary section. I can now confirm that it has a VERY scary section which I'm tempted to grade at 5.12+ but is probably more like 5.10+. Cliff got his share of excitement on the following 5.10+ pitch, at which point we both decided we'd had enough excitement for the day and rapped down just before dusk fell at 5pm. To put this climb in perspective for you... if we'd travelled to Red Rocks and done only the first 4 pitches of *Fiddler on the Roof*, the trip would have been a success for me!

As a bonus, we managed six other days of climbing, including many of the favourites mentioned in my previous Red Rocks article - *Sour Mash*, *Triassic Sands*, and climbs on the **Mass Production Wall**, at Willow Springs, and on *Mescalito*. We also had fun on a 4-pitch 5.9 route called *Bruja's Brew* on *Lotta Balls Wall* in **First Creek Canyon** - another recommendation! Although our traditional Red Rocks accommodation - Ferguson's Motel - has changed hands and is no longer recommended, we were pleased to see that a new campground has been set up within minutes of the entrance to Red Rocks. It's called 13 Mile Campground, and provides campsites, water and toilet facilities for US\$10 a night.

If you want to hear more about our Red Rocks trip, just ask Cliff or me on your next visit to Rock Oasis and we'll be happy to talk about it - one of us is usually there! On the other hand, if you want to discuss the (Doesn't) Matterhorn, you'd be better to

ACTIVITIES

Ice Climbing Trips 2000

The ice-climbing season is fast approaching. Pretty soon it will be time to put away our nuts and take out your picks. The ACC "Iceheads" have organized the following dates for ice climbing. The only thing you need is your own gear and a recent frontal lobotomy! The overnight trips require your own tent and a warm sleeping bag. The ACC also has ice tools for rental, free of charge to its members.

The dates are as follows:

January 29—Bow Lake contact Don Collier @ (905) 884-4098

February 5—Novar Contact Dave Britnell @ (905) 884-3842

February 17 to 20 inclusive—Adirondacks. Contact Dave Britnell @ (905) 884-3842

March 5 and 6—Diamond Lake. Contact Dave Britnell @ (905) 884-3842

Introductory Snowshoeing/Winter Camping

(Tuesday evening February 15 + Saturday/Sunday February 19/20, 2000):

The group will snowshoe into an area around Severn Falls (Crown land), where we will build snow huts or lean-tos with tarps (snow conditions allowing). There will be an information

meeting on February 15, 2000 for people that are interested in going. While the trip is geared towards winter camping novices, those more experienced are invited to come along. Cost: \$10.00 / person non-refundable, payable at the February 15 meeting. Interested members must call the trip leader no later than February 8 to arrange the trip planning meeting place. Contact: Larry Forsyth at 905-825-3356.

Schooner Lake Ice Climbing

(Saturday/Sunday February 19/20, 2000):

Join Martin le Roux for a

weekend of winter camping and ice

climbing. Schooner Lake lies NE of Bon Echo and features one of Southern Ontario's longest known ice climbs (Tachycardia,



Black Velvet Wall at Red Rocks showing the route "Fiddler on the Roof"

ask Ian Markham instead. He has some excellent slides and will have lots to say!

95m, grade 3/4) as well as a dozen or so shorter lines, many in the grade 3/4 range. We'll be leaving from Toronto on Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning, skiing or snowshoeing in (12km) and camping at the base of the cliff. Contact: Martin at 905-465-1525.

Orient Bay Ice Climbing

(Thursday to Sunday March 16-19, 2000)

Martin le Roux is tentatively planning a trip to Orient Bay, Ontario's finest ice-climbing area. Over five dozen documented climbs -- many multi-pitch -- are just a few minutes' walk from the Trans-Canada highway between Nipigon and Beardmore. Grades range from WI2 to WI5. By mid-March the climbs should be fat and soft, and the trails well-packed. Either fly to Thunder Bay and rent a car, or drive (15 to 18 hours from Toronto), and meet in Nipigon. Contact Martin by early January if you're interested (tel 905-465-1525, e-mail martinlr@sympatico.ca).

ACC Toronto Section Winter Trips - 2000

Jan 29 Sat	ice climbing	Bow Lake	Don Collier 905-884-4098
Jan 30 - Feb 4	alpine climbing short course	TBA	Norm Greene 905- 792-7551 Willa Harasym 905-821- 9625
Feb 1 Tues 7pm	ACC discount indoor climbing (1/2 price)	The Rock Oasis	bring membership card
Feb 5 Sat	ice climbing	Fish Lake	Dave Britnell 905- 884-3842
Feb 6 Sun 9:30 am	back country skiing – Mount Dhaulagiri	Kolapore Uplands -- meet at skier parking lot on Grey County Road 2 north of Feversham	Paul Geddes 905-821- 9625
Feb 10 Thurs 7pm	ACC indoor climbing	Joe Rockheads	no discount
Feb 17 Thurs 7pm	ACC discount indoor climbing (1/2 price)	The Toronto Climbing Academy	bring membership card

Feb 17-20 Thurs - Sun	ice climbing	Adirondacks (or New Hampshire)	Dave Britnell 905- 884-3842
Feb 18-20 Fri - Sun	mountaineering - for course participants first - need snowshoes	Adirondacks – Trap Dyke on Mt. Colden plus Algonquin or Giant	Paul Geddes 905-821- 9625
Feb 19-20	snowshoe/winter camping – beginners	Severn Falls	Larry Forsyth 905- 825-3356
Feb 19-20 Sat & Sun	Schooner Lake Ice Climbing & Winter Camping 12 KM Ski or Snowshoe access.	Schooner Lake NE of Bon Echo - features Ontario's longest route Tachycardia, 95m, grade 3 / 4	Martin LeRoux 905- 465-1525
Feb 24 Thurs 7pm	ACC indoor climbing	Gravity, Hamilton	no discount
Mar 2 Thurs 7pm	ACC indoor climbing	Joe Rockheads	no discount
March 4- 5	ice climbing	Diamond Lake	Dave Britnell 905- 884-3842
March 7 Tues 7pm	ACC discount indoor climbing (1/2 price)	The Rock Oasis	bring membership card
March 10-11	snowshoe/winter camping	Algonquin Park	Willa Harasym 905-821- 9625
March 16 Thurs 7pm	ACC discount indoor climbing (1/2 price)	The Toronto Climbing Academy	bring membership card

March 16-19 Thurs - Sun	Orient Bay Ice Climbing	Ontario's finest ice-climbing area; five dozen documented climbs, many multi-pitch. Just a few min walk from the Trans-Can highway between Nipigon and Beardmore	Martin le Roux (905) 465-1525 by early Jan
March 23 Thurs 7pm	ACC indoor climbing	Gravity, Hamilton	no discount
March 30 Thurs 7pm	ACC indoor climbing	The Rock Oasis	no discount

Skiing, Continued from page 1

owned a pair of climbing skins, but good waxing got me to the summit of many an Adirondack peak, Marcy, Algonquin, Wright, and Gothic included.

In 1983, I participated in an ACC winter mountaineering leadership course in western Canada. This is when I attempted to link my first free heel telemark turns, it was tough and there were many hard falls before I became skilled. This type of skiing can be learned and/or practiced at the resorts near Toronto.

By the next winter I had my first ski mountaineering (alpine touring) skis and boots. I found this gear to be really useful, you could ski on it like an alpine ski from the lifts at Sunshine ski resort or by unhooking the heels, carry a pack across the Wapta Icefields.

Every winter I took on more challenging trips in the west to destinations like Fairy Meadows, Tonquin Valley, Lake O'Hara, Esplanade, Blanket Glacier, Sorcerer Lake, Skoki, Stanley Mitchell Hut and Rogers Pass. Whether I took my telemark gear or ski mountaineering gear depended mainly on if it was going to be day trips from a cabin or an expedition style multi-day trip.

In 1990 I discovered that you could ski in Canada in July. A group of us from the Toronto Section made our first trip to the St. Elias Mountains in the Yukon. We have some great video footage from our subsequent trips back to the St. Elias in '92 & '97. During a two week trip this past May we skied from 3,000 feet to over 12,000 feet on a ski mountaineering expedition to tackle Mount Fairweather (15,300 feet) in Alaska.

These trips have all been a real success on ski mountaineering skis. I prefer to use plastic climbing boots with my mountaineering skis, rather than a more specialized ski mountaineering boot. These trips always require a fair bit of

serious climbing once you have taken the skis off, to reach the summit.

Any form of skiing helps to build your skills level. I really enjoy the pleasure of being able to travel anywhere in a wide variety of conditions and terrain with a minimal amount of gear. Today I rely on five different pairs of ski and boot options for the majority of my ski adventures.

- 1) *Track Set Cross Country*: Fisher CS 195 cm classic cross country narrow racing ski. Boot - Alpina with toe clip binding. For groomed trails like Hardwood Hills.
- 2) *Back Country*: Karhu XCD-GT Steel Edged 195 cm double camber (i.e., you can wax them like a classic cross country ski and save the skins for when you really need them). Boot - Leather Asolo Extreme with heavy three pin binding. Synthetic mohair skins. For ungroomed steep trails like Kolapore, the Laurentians or Adirondacks.
- 3) *Telemark*: Tua Montets MX 187 cm, width 86-64-76. Not too wide for those long ski-ins. Boot - Plastic Scarpa T-2 with Riva Cable Binding. Synthetic mohair skins. For the western mountains when back country powder skiing and for eastern ski resort practice.
- 4) *Ski Mountaineering (Alpine Touring)*: Atomic Light TourCap 170 cm. Boot - Plastic Koflach (climbing or ski mountaineering versions - I have both). Binding - Emery. Synthetic mohair skins. For the western mountains when carrying loads and climbing.
- 5) *Alpine Downhill*: Volkl Carver Plus 177 cm shaped ski. Boot - Salmon 7 Sport a soft flexing boot that you can comfortably spend all day in. Binding - Marker. Great on all ski resort terrain, including powder.

Some eastern options for learning to ski off-piste:

First, check out the winter catalogues from Mountain Equipment Co-Op www.mec.ca or Mountain Magic in Banff www.mountainmagic.com to become familiar with the latest gear. Explore www.explore-mag.com and Couloir www.couloirmag.com magazines can be good sources of information on trips and gear.

Ski Telemark, telephone 905-797-1074, runs courses every Wednesday starting on January 12th. Sign up for their eight-week program or just drop in for a night or two. The hill they use is small but conveniently located the North York Ski Centre in Earls Bales Park, North York, north of the 401 off Bathurst.

Visit the web site of NATO (North American Telemark Organization) to find out about intensive telemark training in the northeast U.S. www.telemarknato.com

The Alpine Club of Canada www.alpineclubofcanada.org has published in the Gazette an impressive list of ski mountaineering/telemark trips for winter 2000. Some of the western Sections also run low cost winter trips. The web sites of the Montreal and Ottawa Sections will post some back

country skiing trips closer to home. The Montreal Section operates two properties where you can stay, both of which have excellent ski terrain. One is located in the Laurentians at St. Adolphe d'Howard and the other is a large acreage near Keene, N.Y. in the High Peaks area of the Adirondack Mountains. All Section web sites are linked to the national club's site.

In the Adirondacks you can expect the skiing and the winter weather to be generally extreme and therefore challenging. The best time to go is the middle of February. For more information on the Adirondack Mountains visit www.adk.org or www.mountaineer.com.

If you are interested in practicing your technique or learning the basics, plan to join the Toronto Section www.climbers.org on one of the trips listed in the winter trip schedule found in this newsletter. If you have gear or area questions, feel free to contact me, Paul Geddes, at 905-821-9625 harasym.geddes@sympatico.com.



Choose the ACC friendly climbing gym for your downtown Toronto Climbing needs.

- * **ACC 1/2 PRICE NIGHTS** (first Tuesday of each month)
- * **GREAT ROUTES** (technical outdoor style routes)
- * **FRIENDLY** (supportive atmosphere)

The Rock Oasis is at 27 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON, M5V 2P1
(Bathurst Street just north of Front Street)

www.rockoasis.com / 416 703-3434