



NEWSLETTER

Alpine Club of Canada

Toronto Section

Spring
2002

BON ECHO 2002!

On May 4 and 5, we are asking ACC volunteers to join us at Lake Mazinaw for our annual Bon Echo docking-in ritual. Why do we need your help, and why do we offer this weekend free of charge to ACC members?

- Cliff and I can't open and clean up our ACC Bon Echo hut by ourselves.
- If we have at least 8 people, we can put the dock in without getting wet.
- We need firewood, and help cutting and splitting it, for the sauna and wood stove.
- With enough help, we can do all this, and leave time for climbing and a sauna.

Every weekend after docking-in, until October 19-20, volunteers from the Toronto and Ottawa sections will serve as ACC hut custodians, to run the boat and operate the hut, sauna, and other camp facilities at the Bon Echo hut. This year Cliff Glover and I will again coordinate this activity, and have put together a list of hut custodians for our six-month season (see this article).

Bon Echo 101



Tom Lord topping out on The Pinnacle

For those of you who haven't yet been to Bon Echo, you have an exciting visit ahead of you. Climbing at Bon Echo is truly exhilarating. Most climbs are multi-pitch, some starting directly from the water, and you may find yourself wondering how you can even get from the boat onto the rock!

If you want a traditional ACC introduction, make your first visit on May 25-26, for our Bon Echo 101 introductory weekend. Cliff and I will be on hand, along with other experienced Bon Echo climbers, to lead newcomers up the recommended multi-star routes, at grades ranging from 5.0 to 5.10. Given the relatively harder grades and wilder climbing conditions here, you may want to start with more moderate climbs, such as Birthday Ridge, One Pine, The Front of the Pinnacle or Afternoon Delight.

Keep in mind that Bon Echo is not the place to learn outdoor rock-climbing for the first time. This weekend is offered as an introduction to the area, and is definitely **not** an instructional weekend.

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Member at Large	Brenley Crawford	905-828-1791	
Member at Large	Michael Marxen	416-922-0970	
Member at Large	Lynette Lo	416-538-9346	

Bon Echo is poised for another hard working season, under the continuing and excellent management of Kit Moore and Cliff Glover. The exciting news is that we have been forced to order a new boat and motor, as the old one has virtually given up. (Thanks to our boat committee: Chris Rogers, Cliff Glover & Leo Markle for helping us to decide what to buy.) The new transportation will not be ready until July, so we keep our fingers crossed that the old boat will hold together through the first part of the season.

If you are a Bon Echo Hut user, consider giving back to the Club by volunteering as a hut custodian. (If you are a bit nervous at that prospect, we would be happy to put you with an experienced custodian first to learn the ropes, plus there is a Hut Custodian Orientation Session this year: 7-9pm Wednesday April 24 at Kit's home.) Or volunteer to come and help out at Docking-In May 4-5, at the Roofing Work Weekend July 13-14 or at Ox Roast September 13-14.

A few lines to reflect on our winter activities. Barry Blanchard, one of Canada's top mountaineers and guides, was, as one might expect, both cool and inspiring at the Best of Banff. There was actually ice to climb north of Toronto, and some new routes were established. Dave Britnell, the Section's ice climbing co-ordinator, again gave his best in providing an ambitious ice climbing schedule. The Icefields Workshop succeeded in its final objective: a winter ascent of Giant Mountain in the Adirondaks. And the Winter Camping Workshop participants survived the night. I have not yet heard how the Algonquin Ski Touring Weekend went, but I am sure those who ventured out would have at least found snow to tour on that far north.

In closing, I refer to the recent death of Kevin Bailey. Kevin, a Brampton firefighter and superb local climber, was a Toronto Section member and had in the past served on the Section Executive. He died in February in an ice climbing accident in the Adirondaks. He had participated often and with enthusiasm over the years in our local climbing activities. He was well known to several of our more experienced members, who have contacted me with some warm memories and thoughts of him. Our sympathy goes out to his family and his fiancée.

Word from the Chair

By Willa Harasym

As the "non-winter" winds down, our thoughts turn to the prospect of longer days, rock climbing, mountain climbing and Bon Echo.

Check out our extensive list of rock climbing days & evenings in this issue (Karen Woo is the new rock climbing co-ordinator and is off to a great start). And don't forget indoor climbing "discount" and "pay-the-full-freight" nights - always an alternative, especially when the weather insists.

Word from the Editor

By Jayne Beardsmore

Thank you to all who submitted articles and so promptly. Hope to have an article about this Summer's Section Camp in the fall newsletter, so get your pens and cameras ready! I'm interested in any articles, ads or anything else you would like to submit. You can submit things by e-mail to jayne@mie.utoronto.ca or mail to 25 The Esplanade, Unit 1305, Toronto, Ontario M5E 1W5. Please remember the following deadlines:

May 1st, 2002 – for Summer Newsletter

September 1st, 2002 – for Fall Newsletter

(Bon Echo continued from Page 1)

Getting to Bon Echo

Getting to our hut is easy if you have access to a car. Just follow these 6 easy steps:

1. Call or email the appointed custodian, preferably before the preceding Thursday (see list following this article, or check our website).
2. Arrange with the custodian for a boat pick-up time (10:30 Friday night or Saturday morning, unless you contact the custodian and agree on another time).
3. Find your way to the town of Kaladar and go north on Hwy 41 for about 30 minutes.
4. Go through Cloyne, then pass Smart's Marina, then pass by the entrance to Bon Echo Provincial Park. **Don't turn at the park entrance!** Instead, drive 3 km further on Hwy 41 and turn right at Mazinaw Heights Road North.
5. Drive 2 km to the parking lot at the public dock, unload your camping and climbing gear, park your car for the weekend, and wait on the dock for the ACC boat to arrive.
6. Take the boat to the ACC hut and campground, find a tent site, and store your food in the hut (don't forget to bring some mouse-proof containers).

A Few Restrictions

Because our climbing at Bon Echo is subject to an agreement we have with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), we have agreed to a few important restrictions regarding climbing, rappels, and placing of protection.

For example, ropes or slings are not to be placed on trees for protection or any other purposes. Where trees were slung in the past as "natural pro", we have installed some of the rare Bon Echo bolts, after discussion with MNR. Rappels are permitted, but only at a few specified locations where the ACC has installed rappel bolts. These locations are listed in postings at the ACC hut.

Some climbs are off limits to climbing, as they are situated above or near the rare native rock paintings that can be seen just above the lake's surface. Please examine and respect these restrictions, which are also set out dearly in the ACC hut postings.

You will be asked to sign a waiver form each weekend you climb at Bon Echo. Arranging for these signed forms is also part of our agreement with MNR, and is ACC policy for climbing events generally.

For dog-owners, we now have some limits on dogs at the ACC campground, as a result of two serious dog-bite incidents. If

you're planning to bring your dog, don't come on a long weekend and always check with the custodian first.

Other Reminders

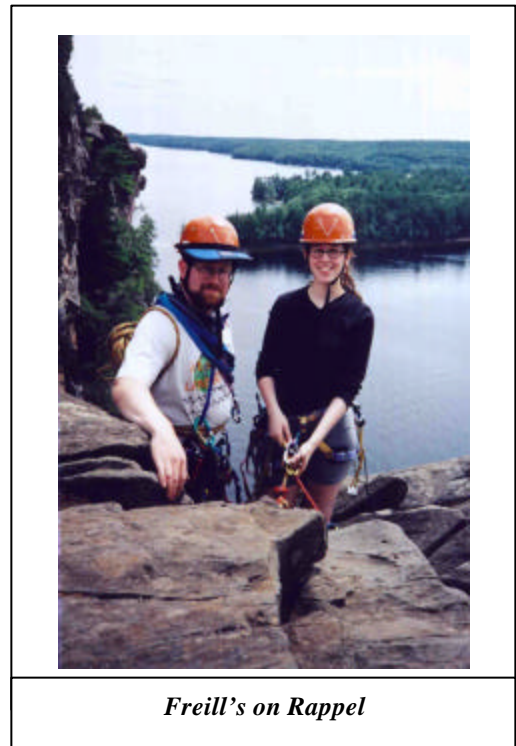
By now, you should be aware that Bon Echo climbing is relatively wild, and not the best place to begin your outdoor climbing career. Most Bon Echo climbers bring helmets and wear them. Stay alert for loose rock, even on some of the well-travelled routes. And always back up pitons when leading at Bon Echo. When you're at the ACC hut, be sure to talk to one of the experienced Bon Echo climbers before setting out on a route for the first time.

Thanks to David Brown and other Bon Echo regulars, we now have an up-to-date version of Steve Adcock's excellent guidebook, usually available at the hut, and at most local climbing gyms and stores. We expect to keep this guidebook updated regularly, but keep in mind that every winter brings more changes to Bon Echo's cliff face and fixed protection, with the result that route descriptions can vary from year to year.

If you have any questions about Bon Echo, you can always call Cliff Glover at **416-444-6967** or Kit Moore at **416-469-3567**, or email either of us at karen@rockoasis.com.

See you at Bon Echo in 2002!

For a list of custodians please refer to Page 14 of this Newsletter.



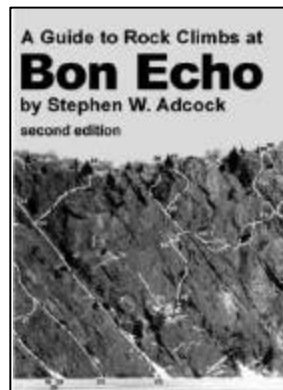
Bon Echo Guidebook

The second edition of Steve Adcock's "A Guide to Rock Climbs at Bon Echo" is an essential accessory for your trip to the best cliff in Ontario. The 120 routes are described (with 18 cliff pictures) in 100 pages, wrapped in a waterproof plastic cover. The first edition of this book sold out during the Y2K climbing season. In the second edition are larger, clearer cliff pictures, updated (and occasionally regraded) route descriptions, the memorandum of understanding with Bon Echo Provincial Park, and everything from the first edition.

After eleven years of inflation, the price is the same as before. Copies are available at The Rock Oasis climbing gym (Toronto, Bathurst Street just north of Front Street), Smart's Marina (at the south end of Mazinaw Lake), sometimes from the custodian at the ACC cabin at Bon Echo, and by mail order from:

Bon Echo Guidebook
16 King Street
Milton, ON, L9T 1J5

The mail order price is \$17 per book (postage included) to addresses in Canada and \$18 to the USA. Please send a money order payable to ACC Toronto Section, including the number of books you want, your mailing address, a contact name and phone number (in case of problems). Prices at the two retail outlets may be higher.



Because we only printed 200 copies, we'll be printing more in 2003. Corrections and suggestions for improvements are requested. I already know about the typos giving the wrong page address for the MOU. There are still a few blank pages that I'd like to fill up with photographs (paintings, drawings?), so if you have some, send me a print or a jpeg. David Brown brown.mail@sympatico.ca

Winter Camping 101

By Karen Woo

It's cold. It's wet. It's miserable. Why would anyone want to go winter camping? Because it is an essential part of any mountaineering expedition. In order to reach higher peaks, one must be prepared to camp in any conditions. But it doesn't have to be a miserable experience, as three future mountaineers and their intrepid leader were to learn.

On a beautiful spring day in February, Nick McKenzie, Leo Markle and Karen Woo, led by Larry Forsyth, set out into the

wilds of the Severn Falls area. Strolling along an unexpected, well packed snowmobile trail virtually eliminated the need for snowshoes for most of the way. The campsite was soon reached, after an unplanned "navigation problem solving exercise" off the beaten path.

Quick, how many architectural / engineering technologists does it take to build a snow shelter? In this case, four. Without the aid of drawings prepared with the latest CAD (computer aided drafting) software, or even the benefit of a tape measure or level, it was soon discovered that form definitely follows function when constructing snow shelters. With the temperature hovering around freezing, the greatest concern was keeping dry. A tarp thrown over three snow walls ensured that problem was solved. The shelter wasn't going to win any design awards, but it served it's purpose.

Larry then proved that it really **is** possible to simmer on a Whisperlite stove, as bags of rice and veggies were miraculously transformed into a gourmet feast to feed the masses.

Morning brought some of the first "real" winter conditions seen this season in Southern Ontario. The temperature had dropped dramatically overnight and everything left on the ground was firmly encased in ice. Another gourmet meal was delayed until the fuel bottle could be chipped from the ice. After breakfast the team retired to the banks of the Severn River to bask in the morning sun, warm boots and tan faces. Who says winter camping has to be cold and wet?

Battle Range 2002 Section Camp

We decided to make the Battle Range the objective for our Section Camp. B.C. Parks has said "No" to our Vowell Glacier site and limited our use of the Conrad Kain Hut to 20 including the cook and the guide. They also said our camp was too big for the group sites and other sites at Assiniboine Provincial Park.

The group decided to set up camp below the Melville Group in the Battle Range, half way between the Bugaboos and Roger's Pass and just south of the southern boundary of Glacier National Park. Ian French gave a website that has recent information about the area: (www.csac.org/snowman/climbing/trips/2001-battlerange/).

The objective is more toward general mountaineering than the Bugaboos, although good granite abounds. It is blockier than the Bugaboos.

(continued on page 5)

(Battle Range continued from page 4)

The group decided to lengthen the time of the camp to twelve days, from Wednesday, August 14 to Sunday, August 25.

Cost for twelve days with cook and guide based on 20 going:

Food	\$165
Cook	\$137
Guide	\$147
Chopper	\$305
Commons tents	\$ 40
Phone/radio	\$ 10
Ground transport	\$ 45
Contingency	<u>\$ 50</u>
Total	\$899

If you want to use the guide for snow-school and leading climbs, add \$73. If you don't want to use the guide, subtract \$73.

If you want to join this trip, please send a deposit of \$100 by March 18, to Norman Greene, made out to him, at 2 Peregrine Grove, Brampton, ON L6S 4B6. If the trip does not go for lack of numbers, your deposit will be refunded in full.

(Since Brenley Crawford, our previous treasurer has found she cannot go, we thank her for volunteering earlier!)

"Who Needs Therapy???"

by Andy Kolos

Free soloing is too easy. You just toss your favorite pair of rock shoes (or slippers) and a chalk bag into your daypack and make your way to a rock. So is climbing alone on ice. You strap your sharp implements to a pack and with boots on your feet, find a frozen flow. If you're looking to free yourself from the worries of everyday life and really focus in on the reality around you, then soloing is too quick and painless (unless of course...). You see, it doesn't require the amount of effort needed to make you forget about your surroundings and feel as if you're somewhere else.

Momentary peace, fulfillment and a sense of accomplishment is what is needed. In order to make a journey out of the puny vertical environment around us, one should turn to solo-aid. Quick? It certainly is not! Do you focus in on the task at hand? Yup! Can you make it brutally tiring and an all out effort? No need to even ask. Just think of climbing up, rappelling, ascending/cleaning and then hauling you're "pig"

up behind you. (Make sure to take plenty of water and leave it in the haul bag).

There are as many different ways to aid climb as there are "condition posts" from Snoop and Goo in the ice pages during the summer. It's also a little masochistic, but every now and then, that is what is needed.

When climbing alone, let some else know where you are, and when you're expected to return. Stay away from popular areas, since the point is to be alone in order to focus all your energy and listen to your breathing (or inner voice telling you to get down quick and run to the nearest bar). Bounce test your placements (or at least yank test them with all your might). Use a solid bottom belay anchor. Keep at least two pieces between yourself and the ground. If you're not feeling very committed just set-up fixed rope beside you're intended line and use two prussiks or ascenders for a self belay. Remember to tie in periodically with a figure eight on a bite, just in case your ascenders pop (you're not trying to kill yourself, even if it looks like it).

Some climbs that might be worth trying (maybe this whole thing isn't worth it):

- Too Fast in Fog, (Mt. Nemo, at the south end). Yes it's an enjoyable free climb, but if it's aiding you're after it's still worthwhile. There's the solid deciduous tree at the base (I think it's a birch if I remember correctly) that you can use for an anchor. All the placements are good and you can even free climb up top.
- The Whore of Brisbane, (Mt Nemo Quarry). It's not that loose and it's a beautiful crack all the way to the easy climbing up top. You can even start on Salon Kitty, clip the manky pins (back them up – with what I don't know) and swing over and down to the starting crack of TWOB on the right.
- Fearless Warrior is another great line. First try and on-site it (either on top-rope or on lead), cuz it would be a shame if you first didn't give it a go! The first bolt is high up there. Either stick clip it and jug up or ... do whatever...
- And then there are also climbs at Fraggie Rock, Nemo South, Bottle Glass, Cow Canyon...

But, whatever you do, don't wreck existing climbs – use clean aid! Don't use excuses (all the time). Headlamps, helmets, warm jackets and rain gear all exist! Have safe, peaceful, focussed, (sometimes scary), masochistic fun. And I haven't even mentioned the approaches with the monster pack on your back! ...Nice!

FAIRY MEADOWS 2001

Diary by Dwight Yachuk

"Toronto section has openings for their Fairy Meadows ACC Section Camp". When I read that notice in the ACC email I knew it was an offer I couldn't refuse. Two years ago I had gone to the ACC General Mountaineering Camp and the bug had bit. This decision was easy. A few emails, a topo from Sid Scull, a map from John Carey, buying, borrowing and packing the gear I needed (and more), a flight to Calgary, a bus ride to Golden, B.C. and I was there. Sure there were a few problems like lugging 50 kilos of gear around and getting into Golden at 3AM because the flight arrived late, a bag went missing and I missed the bus connection to Golden, but by Saturday 6AM, I was ready.

Altogether there were 14 of us. There was Joe Propiak, Jim Prowse and myself, Dwight Yachuk, from Ottawa. From Toronto there was Sid Scull, Laura Scull, Boris Kaschenko, John Carey, Kerry Buller, Don and Ester Collier, Chris and Sue Killey, Ian and Barbara Frensch and Jayne Beardsmore. We loaded all our gear onto the chopper and five lucky people arrived in three minutes flat instead of the 4-5 hour uphill slog.

Did I say there were 14 of us? Actually there were 15, including the most important person, Theresa Calow, our cook. Can you imagine 14 people trying to cook for themselves? Or having to cook for 14? (Whadda yah mean, you don't like baked beans and wieners? That's my specialty!) No, having someone get up at 6AM everyday so you can rise to cowboy coffee, porridge, cereal, yogurt, fresh fruit, cinnamon buns, eggs hollandaise (or any style you want) is the only way to go. There was always a smorgasbord of cheeses, dips, fresh veggies, mussels, and baked goods if you were back by 2 PM. And then around 7PM there was dinner. How about poached salmon with wild rice, waldorf salad, carrots and beans and carrot cake for dessert? Maybe a turkey dinner with pumpkin pie for dessert? How about coconut curry stew on rice, lasagna, burritos or bowtie pasta with olives, artichokes and red peppers, caesar salad, garlic bread and chocolate cake for dessert. That's fresh baked bread (white or whole wheat, you choose) and home made chocolate cake. Wonderful delicious meals; each day, every day.

Oh yeah, climbing?



The first day several parties set out on the hike up to Friendship Col. The route starts on the path up the moraine hill in front of the cabin, crosses a glacier creek (watch for the cairns) and

continues up the boulder field before turning right at three directional cairns (easy to miss), up a loose rock and boulder hill, up several snow slopes until finally onto the snow covered Echo glacier heading up the actual Friendship Col. Just before getting on to Gothics glacier, you have to climb a steep gully guarded by a 2' crevasse. Luckily there a wide bridge across the center so we could easily cross. But is it a bridge or just a thin snow covering? Well Jayne and I managed to uncover the crevasse to the left as we glissaded back down (we didn't notice anything) and Laura, she managed to find a new one on the right where she plunged into her armpits.

Friendship Col

Friendship Col is an important route as it takes you to several peaks and ridges, including East Peak, Pioneer, Sentinel and Damon peaks to the west, and the ridge run including



Pythias, Houdini, Quadrant, Spire and Outpost to the east. It's also the route across the snow covered Gothics Glacier to Thor Pass and on to the Great Cairn hut just in case you had any delusions of climbing Mount Sir Sanford from here.

Delusions of Climbing Mount Sir Sanford

We certainly planned to climb Mount Sir Sanford before we arrived. You know, a day from FM to the GC hut, maybe a rest day if we were tired, a day up and down Mount Sir Sanford and then a day back. As soon as you take your first hike up Friendship Col do you realize the folly of that plan. Quickly our plans turned to maybe hiking to GC hut, and then maybe hiking to Thor pass for a look across to maybe, maybe next time. A full days hike to GC hut means 16 hours of hiking with all your equipment and grub. You'd need a rest day by the time you got there, at least a full 16 hour day to get up and down Mount Sir Sanford, another rest day to recover from the exhaustion and then a final 16 hour push back to FM cabin. Add a day or two for bad weather and an unsuccessful first attempt and it looks more like a week. Better to arrange for the chopper to drop you there and pick you up 4 days later.

Pioneer Peak (3290m) or Bust!

Our hardest climb? Boris, Jim, Jayne and I decided to try Pioneer peak in the Adamants from the north side via the 5.2 northeast ridge. 5.2 may mean nothing to a rock hound but when you're in plastic boots, carrying a pack and just spent 8 hours on the approach to snow and ice covered rock it's something to consider. It's up at 5AM and out the door 45 minutes later. In 1½ hours we're on the snow covered Granite glacier. John, an alpha climber, suggested that we might find

the crossing very difficult if not impossible. And he would have been right if not for Boris our Russian ice gun!

We roped up, myself as crevasse poodle, and headed out. The route across the Granite glacier was riddled with crevasses. We crossed and skirted a number of smaller ones until we came to our first major crevasse. It was 50 feet across and totally impassable. Or so three of us thought. I was ready to turn back, but Boris, our fearless guide got on his belly, and wiggled to the edge. He pronounced that one of the overhanging snow cornices was actually a snow bridge leading down to a lower section (Sure, yeah, you go first). While we put him on anchor he fearlessly, stealthily, weightlessly stepped across. Twenty feet later he declared himself safe. Jim was having trouble being lightweight and stealthy at the same time so after one foot plunged a long way down he elected for follow Boris' belly crawl technique to get across. Feather-weight Jayne flew over. Finally, on belay from the other side, I made it across.

We were now in the crevasse. **"Let's go and see if there is a way out of here"** were Boris' encouraging words. We started down the length of the crevasse, edging towards the other side. A few hundred feet later we headed up a snow slope to a 6-foot snow wall separated by a small 2-foot crevasse. Boris borrowed an ice axe and with two axes attempted leaping the gap as demonstrated in the movie "Vertical Limit". If the wall had been ice it might have worked but the axes just slid down the snow as Boris struggled to keep his feet on this side of the crevasse.

I thought I should volunteer to try as I had a much longer reach, but laid down for a while until the feeling passed (I took pictures instead). Finally, instead of straight up, Boris edged right to where the wall changed into a slope (and the crevasse opened up into a very wide and deep hole) and threw himself onto the snow ramp using the famous Russian Velcro technique. In a flash he was up and over the top. The rope kept playing out at least another 50 feet and suddenly he shouted "Safe". We quickly followed to where we found him on top of a 4 foot overhanging ice horn guarded by a crevasse as well. Had Boris leapt across this void? He wasn't telling and the ice was keeping its secrets.

Now out of the crevasse and back on the glacier we continued on, some of us wondering if we could make our way back. Up and up we went as the snow slope got steeper and steeper. More uphill switchbacks until we rounded the northwest buttress and finally saw our route. We were now between two ridges and heading up the snow gully to the mountain. It was obvious that the snow and ice had greatly receded since the guide's photo had been taken and the indicated route was unreachable. We since concluded that the line drawing is too low.

We continued toiling uphill until we hit the bergschrund. Boris climbed a 50 degree snow bridge onto the slope above. We switched to belaying each other and within a couple of rope

lengths we had crossed to the left and hit the rocks. We switched to rock and ice mode and using crampons and hands I led a couple of class 5 traverses sticking to a snow/ice/rock gully to the ridge. From afar we could see several needles on the ridge and one of them had a rock sitting on top. An obvious cairn (wrong) we thought as we made our way there. Finally we were at the ridge. An easy 5.2 scamper to the top and we were there. Well getting from the ridge break onto the ridge proper looked like a 5.8. To the other side there was a 30 foot drop to a grassy ledge.

Did the ledge lead to the top or would we be stranded there? Boris wanted to be lowered down for a look, but it was 4:30 PM, we'd been climbing for over 10 hours and I was getting cranky. A simple mistake and I knew someone could get killed. I suggested we turn back. Jim and Jayne agreed with expressions of relief. Boris didn't want to return the way we had come. The descent down the snow slope to the bergschrund was dangerous in the afternoon sun. He was right. However I remembered being stuck on top on Mental Blocks at midnight in the pouring rain unable to find the rap rings and looking at a four hour stumble through dense brush in the dark. I remembered the words of that five season inveterate hardman, John Wade declaring we would "Rap the route". Better the route we knew than dropping 30 feet into the unknown. Everyone agreed.

Down the ridge we saw that our decision to turn back had been correct. There was a snow gully even higher than the one we had taken that seemed to connect to the snow ridge on the other side. That was the correct route. Our 30' descent would have stranded us on a grassy ledge with shear walls on three sides and a 100' drop to an 80 degree snow chute.



An Athabasca Playground All to Ourselves

If you've never been on a glacier (and even if you have) heading across the Granite Glacier is a great experience. There is no snow here on the glacier, so no danger

of hidden crevasses. However the glacier is riddled with them so lots of time can be spent jumping crevasses and threading the maze and some ventured to do the "glacier dance" in running shoes. In fact, you can spend many hours exploring, following surface streams and watching them disappear into blue holes, peering into deep blue crevasses, some a foot wide, others as wide as a house, jumping some crevasses, skirting others and wondering if you'll ever find a way back.

Ridge Walk - Pythias to Houdini

The ridge is lots of fun and recommended as an easy day for

advanced climbers or a rugged but safe hike for neophytes. The first half of the ridge had lots of scrambles and 5.2 sections. The boulders were solid and easy to scramble over. The ridge was mostly over ten feet wide but in spots it narrowed to just a few feet.

Past the disappearing needles the backside of the ridge eased off and it would be an easy scamper onto Granite glacier. By 2 PM we were at Houdini peak where we ate our lunch and watched Jim and Don at the top of Quadrant and which was later also climbed by Laura and Sid Scull.

The Nelson Boys Arrive

Late in the afternoon a chopper flew by quick and low, stopped in Fairy Meadows for about 2 minutes and then flew out again. More food?

No, it was three old timers, Hamish, Kim and Peter and Stan from Nelson and Kamloops, BC. It seems the last time they were out here (without Stan) was in '78! A quick look at the guidebook and there were their names against several first ascents. Yep, we were in the presence of mountaineering gods. And what do you do with mountaineering gods? Well, you invite them in to help eat all the food we had brought and which, as Theresa kept telling us, we weren't eating fast enough. Once the shock of not having to cook for themselves passed we had friends for life and all the guidance and stories we wanted. And we got to follow their trail if we wanted.

Success on Pioneer

Boris and I set off up the Granite glacier at 8 AM. This time, instead of heading up the south side of Pioneer, we intended to climb Pioneer Col and attack it from the north. Stan, Laura and Jim as well as the Nelson boys were approaching it from the north as well, but up Friendship Col. Surely with three parties someone would make it up.

The weather was unsettled. It was windy all day with the clouds blowing through. For a July day, it looked like winter. Boris and I climbed up Pioneer pass in driving snow and hail.

Pioneer pass is divided in two. On the right is a narrow chute under a serac. We had seen it calf two days earlier. We choose the wider left approach. There was a wide crevasse about 1/3 of the way up with a possible route across a snow bridge. Although the crevasse wasn't very wide, about three feet, the angle was fairly steep and we had to climb up. The snow bridge looked about four feet thick but the snow was unconsolidated. I kept moving left and down, plunge stepping my feet through the snow to the crevasse lower lip (so I hoped) while probing with my pole. It was scary pushing the pole down, down, down and then pulling it out and looking into the crevasse below. The snow was solid at about head height but how to get across? I was fast running out of snow bridge so finally I just leaned forward and crawled uphill until I was safe. We continued up the much steeper (35 degree) slope, Boris and I swinging leads until about 6 pitches later we were into some rocks about two hundred feet from the top. Boris

started up but immediately hit ice and had to stop and put on his crampons. In two pitches we were at the top and we actually got to use two ice screws! Now we were back on the snow.

We may have climbed Pioneer pass alone but we weren't unwatched. The Nelson boys were up on Sentinel watching our progress and as it turned out, we could be seen from back at the cabin.

Once on Gothics glacier, the way to Pioneer was fairly straight forward. There was a large crevasse coming down to the left, which disappeared under the snow, reappeared and then ended in a huge hole. We caught up with Sid, Laura and Jim at the snow bridge and once over the first major crevasse we had the Nelson boys breaking trail. With Stan in the lead we made good time. We had seen a rock ridge rise out of the snow on our right and thought it would make a good summit. The Nelson boys steered down and to the left and in a few minutes a huge black monster of a rock pile loomed out of the swirling clouds. We skirted down and around to the right and climbed directly up the steep southern snow slope. Boris and I got up just in time to see the Nelson boys unrope and scamper onto the rock ridge. There was an eight-foot step and then a 100 foot scramble to the top. The step was made for tall climbers so I short roped Boris up and did the same for Sid when they arrived. Finally we were all at the top shaking hands and taking pictures. It was 3:30 PM and time to head home. The wind is howling and visibility is poor. What an adventure. On the way down every once in a while you would be in a wind shadow or the sun would come out and you'd be sweating and stripping layers. Moments later it was the wind or the clouds and back on went the clothes.

Another Day

Time for an easier day?? Up a 5.5 climb up Sentinelle, but the approach is all mud, rock gravel and loose rock. With rocks shifting under our feet and stuff rolling down, Jayne and I get up to the glacier. We took separate lines and decide to head back another way down. The Nelson boys are headed up Outpost. Don and Glen tackle Enterprise. Sid and Laura try Cycle and John heads up Pioneer alone. A braver man than I.

Colossal

It's 5 AM and still dark when Boris, Jim and I are up and eating breakfast. By 6 AM we're out the door. By now we're all veterans (aspiring to be mountain gods). Boris, Jim and I climb up the middle of Granite glacier, front pointing about 500 meters up the steep ice slope.

Once up we take the crampons off and head across the snowfield. There is a large crevasse right at a band of rocks but a handy snowbridge gets us across. From there we turn right to gain the ridgeline. After scrambling across a few more rock bands, you are on a snow ridge. We were unroped and feeling confident, but it's a steep 200' down on your left and an even

steeper 500' on your right. Then the ridgeline itself starts to steepen. At this point Boris asks if anyone feels like they need to rope up.

Rope up?

Well every fourth step, your bottom foot slides down a couple of feet so you jam your ice axe in on the other side of the ridge just a little harder. I just need to keep moving. Thankfully we're in the swirling clouds and can't see much but every once in a while the clouds clear and it's a loooong way down.

Finally we reach a triangular plateau. Here we drop our packs and scramble a short ridge the last 200' to the rocky summit.

At the summit, there is a cairn here with an old plastic gatorade bottle in it.

We read the names of climbers from last year's GMC camp. They write ominously of the ice slope they climbed. Is there something else awaiting us? We read through all the notes and scrapes of paper, the earliest dating back to 1976.

The clouds blow away, the sun comes out and the view is gorgeous! We wave to the other group on Enterprise. Jayne, Joe and Laura informed me that it was one of the most scenic and relatively easy climbs and in Sid's words rather "Sound of Music like". They saw a family of goats in the flowered meadows, a nice reward after a steep rock scramble (which reeked havoc on the knees going back down). Sid is quite the kick stepper and they reached the summit in good time to enjoy sunshine and spectacular views.

Disaster on the Throne

Climbing to and from the outhouse is all most of us could manage today.

Fly Out Day



The day arrives with blue skies. It's cleanup day. We have to change the outhouse barrels. They were empty when we arrived but all of that cooking had to go somewhere. Jim, Boris, Sid and I volunteer. There is

only room for three in the platform so I direct from below (and safely to one side). The barrels are on wheeled skids, which makes it easy to move them. The important thing is to get the

lids on!!!

... We sweep and wash the floors, clean the windows of dead mosquitoes (again) and pack ten boxes of uneaten food and ten boxes of garbage. Nothing can be left behind ...

HIKING AND SCRAMBLING IN THE AUSTRIAN ALPS

These are outings for the keen hiker/scrambler mountain connoisseur: great scenery, light packs, cozy places to stay and excellent food and drink. Two trips are offered for 2002.

Allgäuer Alps : June 30 to July 14, 2002

The first is a repeat of the popular round trip through the Allgäuer Alps from June 30 to July 14, 2002. The outing starts and ends in Oberstdorf, Germany, just at the entrance into the Austrian Kleine Walsertal (Little Walser Valley).

Lechtaler Alps : July 14 to July 28

The second is a traverse of a complete mountain range, the Lechtaler Alps from July 14 to July 28. This trip starts and ends in Felkirch, Austria, an ancient little town, just across from Liechtenstein.

The mountains in these areas are of medium height, offer numerous trails and a conveniently located hut system. Many of the peaks can be reached by trails or relatively easy scrambles. At this time of the year there will be an abundance of wildflowers and the huts (except for weekends) are not crowded.

The cost for each two-week trip is CAD 2300.00. This covers all expenses except airfare, alcoholic beverages and soft drinks. It includes all transportation by train, bus and cable car as well as transportation from Zürich airport to Oberstdorf or Feldkirch, all meals, all stays at hotel, inns and huts. It also includes membership in the Austrian Alpine Club, which provides liability and rescue insurance as well as emergency transportation back to Canada, should it be requires. A physician will accompany the group. All you have to do is show up at Zürich airport and we take care of the rest.

**For more information contact Helmut and Gisele Microys
109 Woodland Lane, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T3R 1G4
Tel. (403) 241-0717; fax (403) 241-0796; e-mail:
microys@telusplanet.net**

SUMMER 2002 ACTIVITIES OF THE ACC TORONTO SECTION

ACC CLIMBING EVENTS DISCLAIMER

Please note that ACC climbing events are NOT instructional.

These outings & trips are social events for climbers with outdoor climbing experience to meet partners & try out some new routes. While participants do not have to be competent leaders, they must be able to belay a leader & clean a route **OR** they must be able to safely & securely set up a top rope, and competently belay a climber on top rope. Climbing gear will not be provided. Trip leaders will do their best to arrange car pooling for those that require a ride, otherwise it may be possible to find a ride through the ACC Bulletin Board at "www.Climbers.org".

Participants in ACC outdoor activities are required to be ACC members in good standing. Everyone is required to read and sign the ACC's standard release and waiver of liability before participating.

OUTDOOR CLIMBING DATES 2002

<i>DATE</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>CONTACT INFO.</i>
29 - 31 March 2002 Easter Weekend	Red River Gorge - Slade, Kentucky Sport & trad routes of all grades. Early spring conditions are often good. Camping & the best "everything" pizza at Miguel's. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to arrange camp sites.	Grant Parkin (905) 641 3680 Veronica Feenstra (905) 524 1342
Wednesday, 17 April 2002	Sunset Rocks A great spot for bouldering & practicing gear placement on a 20' high limestone cliff. Meet where the Bruce Trail crosses Twiss Road at 6:00 pm.	Paul Geddes (905) 821 9625
Saturday, 20 April 2002	Niagara Gorge A great spot for bouldering. Contact trip leader for directions.	Susan Andrew (905) 634 2805
Sunday, 21 April 2002	Buffalo Crag ACC Earth Day Clean Up. Stick around to climb a few routes as well. Meet at lower parking lot at Rattlesnake Conservation Area.	David Myles (416) 222 3251
Thursday, 25 April 2002	Your First Trip(s) West to the Mountains An evening workshop presented by Roger Wallis. A MUST for those new or relatively new to climbing out West. Call ahead to confirm attendance. Paul & Willa's - 1652 Sir Monty's Drive, Mississauga	Paul Geddes Willa Harasym (905) 821 9625
Wednesday, 30 April 2002	Rattlesnake Point	Meet in upper parking lot at 6:00 pm
Saturday, 04 May 2002	Buffalo Crag Intro to climbing at the Niagara Escarpment. Trad routes of all grades. Some sport routes. Meet at lower parking lot of Rattlesnake Conservation Area at 9:00 am.	Sandra Bowkun (416) 482 1526
18 - 20 May 2002 Victoria Day Weekend	Gunks - New Paltz, New York Easily accessible single & multi-pitch trad routes of all grades in a wonderful setting. Camping, motels & lots of restaurants in nearby New Paltz. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to arrange accommodations.	Brenley Crawford (905) 828 1791

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT INFO.
18 - 20 May 2002 Victoria Day Weekend	Mount Washington - New Hampshire ACC Ski/Board Tuckermans Ravine - camp in state park; hike up with skis/board strapped to pack; hike to summit &/or rock climbing at Cathedral Ledge are added possibilities. Canadians take over Tuckermans Ravine annually on the Victoria Day weekend. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to arrange camp sites.	Ray Rutitis (905) 831 6399
25 - 26 May 2002	Bon Echo - "Bon Echo 101" weekend Intro to multi-pitch climbing on Ontario granite. Trad routes of all grades. Contact custodian to arrange boat pick up.	Kit Moore (416) 469 3567 Cliff Glover (416) 444 6967
Wednesday, 29 May 2002	Rattlesnake Point	Meet in upper parking lot at 6:00 pm
08 - 09 June 2002	Lions Head - Bruce Peninsula Sport routes of all grades & trad routes 5.10+ on Ontario limestone, in the Escarpment's most spectacular setting. Waterfront camping & restaurants in Lions Head. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to arrange camp sites.	Ray Rutitis (905) 831 6399
Saturday, 15 June 2002	Mt Nemo North Trad routes of all grades. Some sport routes. Contact trip leader for meeting time & location.	John Carey (905) 878 1674
Saturday, 22 June 2002	Devil's Glen Best crack climbs in Southern Ontario. Meet at the parking lot of Mylar's restaurant in Singhampton at 10:00 am. Contact trip leader for directions.	Mike Stein (905) 274 3018
Wednesday, 26 June 2002	Rattlesnake Point	Meet in upper parking lot at 6:00 pm
28 June - 02 July 2002 Canada Day Long Weekend	Seneca Rocks - West Virginia Multi-pitch trad routes of all grades in the beautiful Smoke Hills. Clean camping & inexpensive motels nearby. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to arrange accommodations.	Shari Langdon Ted Baldwin (416) 462 0060
Saturday, 06 July 2002	Beaver Valley - Young's Crag or Old Baldy Sport routes at grade 5.9 & up. Contact trip leader for meeting time & location. Permits required	TBD
Sunday, 07 July 2002	Rattlesnake Point Crevasse rescue & Prussic practice - essential skills for the mountains. Meet at bottom of main stairway at 9:00 am.	Paul Geddes Willa Harasym (905) 821 9625
Saturday, 20 July 2002	Metcalf Rock Sport & trad routes of all grades. Meet at the parking lot of Mylar's restaurant in Singhampton at 10:00 am. Contact trip leader for directions.	Karen McGilvray (416) 465 0660

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT INFO
Saturday, 27 July 2002	Kelso Trad routes of all grades. Some sport routes. A great place on a hot day. Meet in parking lot at base of ski hill at 9:00 am.	Karen Woo (416) 778 9239
Wednesday, 31 July 2002	Rattlesnake Point	Meet in upper parking lot at 6:00 pm
03 - 05 August 2002 Civic Holiday Weekend	Adirondacks - Keene, New York Joint trip with Ottawa Section. Trad routes & hiking trails of all grades in a pristine mountain environment. Accommodations in the hut or field at the ACC Montreal Section's Keene Farm. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to arrange accommodations.	Kit Moore (416) 469 3567 Dwight Yachuk (613) 262 5559
Saturday, 17 August 2002	Mt Nemo South A little known climbing area. Trad routes of all grades. Some sport routes. Contact trip leader for meeting time & location.	TBD
14 - 25 August 2002	Battle Range, British Columbia Toronto Section Camp. Camp below the Melville Group in the Battle Range, half way between the Bugaboos and Roger's Pass and just south of the southern boundary of Glacier National Park.	Norm Greene (905) 792 7551
Wednesday, 28 August 2002	Rattlesnake Point	Meet in upper parking lot at 6:00 pm
31 Aug - 02 Sept 2002 Labor Day Weekend	TBD	TBD
14 - 15 September 2002	Bon Echo "Ox Roast" weekend An ACC Toronto Section tradition! \$25 per person for the weekend, includes dinner on Saturday. Dogs are <u>not</u> allowed on this weekend. Contact custodian one week ahead to confirm attendance & arrange boat pick up.	Willa Harasym (905) 821 9625
21 - 22 September 2002	Buffalo Crag / Rattlesnake Point - camping & climbing weekend A great time of year to enjoy the fall colors & crank a few routes. Contact trip leader at least one week ahead to reserve camp sites.	Kit Moore (416) 469 3567
Wednesday, 25 September 2002	Rattlesnake Point	Meet in upper parking lot at 6:00 pm
Saturday, 28 September 2002	TBD	TBD
12 - 14 October 2002 Thanksgiving Weekend	TBD	TBD

INDOOR CLIMBING DATES 2002

<i>DATE</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>COMMENTS</i>
Tuesday, 2 April 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Thursday, 11 April 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	NO discount
Thursday, 18 April 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Tuesday, 23 April 2002	Rock Oasis	NO discount
Tuesday, 07 May 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Thursday, 16 May 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 22 May 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Tuesday, 28 May 2002	Rock Oasis	NO discount
Tuesday, 04 June 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 12 June 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Thursday, 20 June 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Thursday, 27 June 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	NO discount
Tuesday, 2 July 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 10 July 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Thursday, 18 July 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 24 July 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Tuesday, 06 August 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Thursday, 15 August 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 21 August 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Tuesday, 27 August 2002	Rock Oasis	NO discount
Tuesday, 03 September 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 11 September 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Thursday, 19 September 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Thursday, 26 September 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	NO discount
Tuesday, 01 October 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 09 October 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Thursday, 17 October 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 30 October 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Tuesday, 05 November 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 13 November 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Thursday, 21 November 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership
Tuesday, 26 November 2002	Rock Oasis	NO discount
Tuesday, 03 December 2002	Rock Oasis	Half price with ACC membership
Wednesday, 11 December 2002	Gravity	NO discount
Thursday, 19 December 2002	Toronto Climbing Academy	Half price with ACC membership

BON ECHO HUT CUSTODIANS FOR YEAR 2002

WEEKEND	CUSTODIAN	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	NOTES
May 4-5	Kit Moore	416-469-3567	Karen@rockoasis.com	Docking-in
	Cliff Glover	416-444-6967	Karen@rockoasis.com	
May 11-12	Mike Stein	905-274-3018	Michael.stein@cdi.ca	
May 18-20	Kit Moore	416-469-3567	Karen@rockoasis.com	Long Wkend
	Danielle Beaton	613-584-4194	beaton@magma.ca	
May 25-26	Cliff Glover	416-444-6967	Karen@rockoasis.com	BonEcho 101
	Kit Moore	416-469-3567	Karen@rochoasis.com	
June 1-2	Leo Markle	416-778-9239	dakotaj@sympatico.ca	
June 8-9	David Bridges	416-353-8761	david.bridges@bellnexxia.com	
June 15-16	Mike Stein	905-274-3018	Michael.stein@cdi.ca	
June 22-23	John Carey	905-878-1674	john_r_carey@hotmail.com	
June 29-Jul 1	Cliff Glover	416-444-6967	Karen@rockoasis.com	Long Wkend
	Grant Parkin	905-661-3680	gparkin@becon.org	
July 6-7	Paul Witherly	905-259-1422	pwitherly@partnersintegrated.com	
July 13-14	Glen Norris	416-422-2227	gnorris2227@rogers.com	Roof Wkend
July 20-21	Paul Geddes	905-858-2330*	harasym.geddes@sympatico.ca	
July 27-28	Nikki Licht	613-687-7098	nikki@webhart.net	Wedding Wknd
Aug 3-4-5	Sean Freill	613-829-1008	freill@yahoo.ca	Long Wkend
	Bryan Freill	N/A	bfreill@hotmail.com	
Aug 10-11	Calvin Klatt	613-234-2072	cklatt@istar.ca	
Aug 17-18	Larry Forsyth	905-825-3356	lforsyth@acres.com	
Aug 24-25	Ray Rutitis	905-831-6399*		
Aug 31-Sept2	Cliff Glover	416-444-6967	Karen@rockoasis.com	Long Wkend
	Michael Marxen	416-922-0970	Michael-marxen@utoronto.ca	
Sept 7-8	Chris Rogers	905-729-4768	crogers@bonnex.net	
Sept 14-15	Willa Harasym	905-821-9625*	harasym.geddes@sympatico.ca	Ox Roast?
Sept 21-22	David Bridges	416-353-8761	david.bridges@bellnexxia.com	
Sept 28-29	David Myles	416-222-3251	david.myles@primus.ca	
Oct 5-6	John Wylie	416-421-0733	john@metamail.com	
Oct 12-14	Kit Moore	416-469-3567	Karen@rockoasis.com	Long Wkend
	Danielle Beaton	613-584-4194	beaton@magma.ca	
Oct 19-20	Kit Moore	416-469-3567	Karen@rockoasis.com	Docking-out
	Cliff Glover	416-444-6967	Karen@rockoasis.com	

*Phone before 10pm