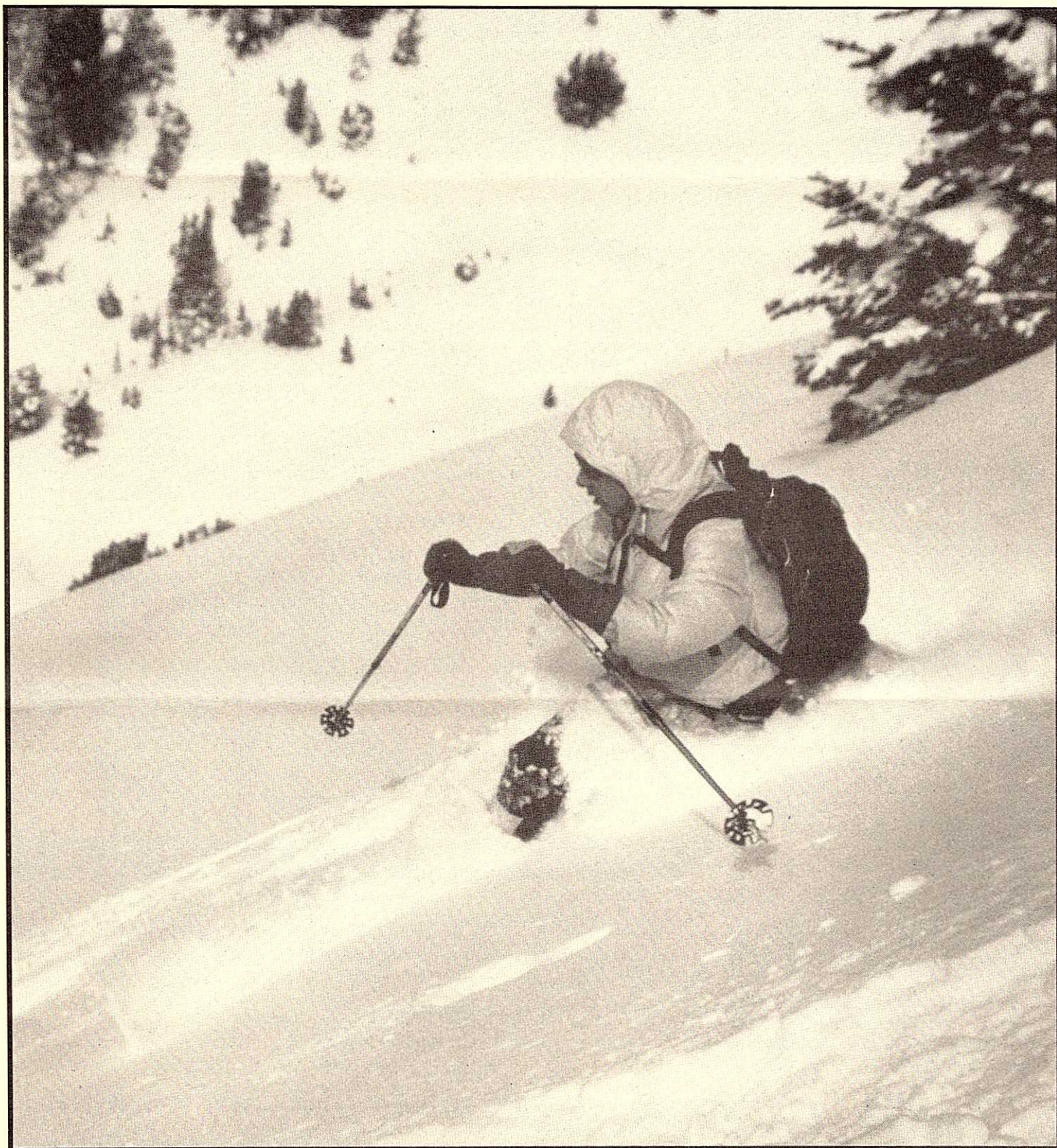


CLOUDBURST



Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia Newsletter

December 1990



FMCBC

The Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia (FMCBC) is the official sport governing body for mountaineering in B.C., representing the interests of hiking, climbing and outdoor clubs in the province.

The FMCBC operates as a non-profit organization addressing mountain related issues, promoting safety and education through courses of instruction, and constructing and maintaining hiking and mountain access trails throughout B.C.

Membership in the FMCBC is open to any individual or group involved or interested in non-mechanized outdoor activities and conservation concerns. Membership includes a subscription to CLOUDBURST.

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CLOUDBURST

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Phone (604) 737-3053.

Editor: Sara Kammerzell Assistant: Anne Ng
Layout: Sport B.C. Print Shop

Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome and will be considered for unpaid publication. Submissions should be typed, double spaced, signed and accompanied by a SASE for return. Your ideas are welcome.

COVER PHOTO: Putting it all together in the steep and deep of the Southern Chilcotin backcountry. FMCBC Eldorado Creek Ski Tour, February 1990. Photo Credit: Jim Rutter

Assisted by



Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture
Honourable Lyall Hanson, Minister

from the Executive Director

Jim Rutter

How healthy is your club?

I'm not referring to the cleanliness of the showers at your local weight lifting centre, but rather to your perception of the hiking club to which you belong.

If you are kept well-informed about weekend trips through a presentable mailout, find the organized meetings to be interesting and get together with other members for social occasions, then I'll bet you have a positive feeling about your club.

Some may require more. For them to be satisfied they want to see a club involvement with environmental concerns, scheduled trail building or maintaining weekends and perhaps an annual camp, planned to provide a low cost but exciting week in a place you wouldn't get to on your own.

One way to measure "healthy" is by membership totals. Clubs worry about how many members they have, and for good reason, —because there is a relationship between numbers and services. When general costs such as for meeting rooms and newsletters can be shared, you can do more.

Membership becomes a concern when it's shrinking, and for some Federation member clubs this is the trend. I suggest that "value for money" and a sense of "good things going on," are two main reasons why members stay.

So, is your club healthy?

The Federation worries about membership for one reason more, other than income from each club.

The clubs formed the FMCBC to represent their concerns, and, to represent them more effectively than each club could alone. Lobbying for a group of ten thousand is more effective than for two thousand. Likewise, there is more effectiveness when we represent as many clubs as possible, and from all areas of B.C.

Mike Nash points out (on page 10)

that the Federation has to get bigger, and I agree. It isn't just a matter of survival, it's a question of effectiveness. We already have as members almost all the hiking and mountaineering clubs we know of—the exception being the Okanagan where the Kamloops, Penticton and Vernon clubs wouldn't go for the membership fee increase.

Should we offer a reduced membership fee to clubs furthest from the Lower Mainland?

Should we encourage and help our member clubs to actively attract new members?

Should we increase our membership by promoting non-club (individual) memberships?

Nobody knows what percentage of the hiking/mountaineering public is represented by clubs. Possibly its only 25%. On our courses about 40% of the 900 participants per year are Federation members. The Federation already promotes individual memberships, both individual and club, and encourages new clubs to join up, so how can the clubs promote themselves?

Clubs can run membership drives (and use the Federation display), advertise in local newspapers, and provide club information and application forms to Federation course participants. Clubs can put displays at retail outlets, or give slide shows and invite the public.

And perhaps if your club is very "healthy", word of mouth is advertising enough - and your numbers confirm it. But if your numbers are down, you might ask why.

In the end clubs will better promote themselves by offering an interesting, affordable, friendly and supportive experience that is open and welcoming to new faces.

Perhaps it is not a question of "what can your club do for you?" but "what can you do for your club?"

Parks of British Columbia and the Yukon

by Maggie Paquet

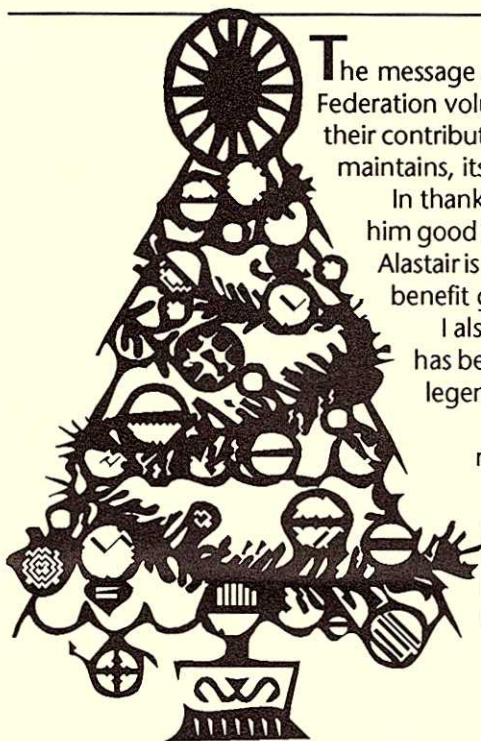
Now available. The only authorized guide to the national, provincial and territorial parks, historic sites and trails of B.C. and the Yukon.

- 440 pages
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Contact: Maggie Paquet, Maia Publishing Ltd., 302 East 6th Street, North Vancouver, B.C. V7L 1P6 988-5887

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

- Suzanne Mazoret



The message of Christmas helps us to appreciate anew the generous contributions of the many Federation volunteers. In particular our committee chairpersons deserve a sincere "thank you" for their contribution, because it is at the committee level that the Federation first established, and now maintains, itself as an advocacy group for its members.

In thanking Richard Howes for his busy time as Safety and Education Chairman, and wishing him good luck in Germany, it is my pleasure to welcome Alastair Foreman as the new chairman. Alastair is well-known and respected in the mountaineering community, and the Federation will benefit greatly from his being on board.

I also welcome David Jones as the new chairman of the Smoke Bluffs Committee. David has been a member of this committee for three years, and his interest in Squamish is almost legend. We thank John Howe, the outgoing chairman, for his contribution.

There are many other volunteers, most of whom contribute without our separate recognition. "Thank you" to you all.

Best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas season and for the New Year.

Thinking about the ski season?

Think about the Federation of Mountain Clubs.

Here it is, December already. Everyone has been gearing up for the ski season - waxing the skis, checking out new gear in the stores, even getting in a few days skiing at the local ski areas.

It is no exception here at the Federation office. We have been busy preparing for a season that looks to be fantastic. The staff are busy answering questions, helping people decide on courses or signing others up for their preferred choice. Meanwhile, all of the instructors have gathered together on a number of occasions, having a look at areas we use for courses, doing a bit of fine tuning on this winter's programs, and just double-checking to make sure that this year's offerings are to be better than ever.

Our brochure has been out for almost two months now - if you don't already have one, drop into one of the local outdoor stores and pick one up (or give us a call at 737-3053). Just keep an eye out for the bright purple cover! This year the brochure again covers both winter and summer, which is a real advantage if you need to book your time for trips well in advance.

This winter's offerings expand on the same courses we have run in the past - with, of course, some improvements and additions. Both Avalanche courses, Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Winter Hazard Evaluation, are now at a 5:1 student to instructor ratio to better assist

you in this most important aspect of winter travel. A weekend on a Winter Hazard Evaluation course is an ideal way to hone up those safe winter travel skills - also a good time to get some fine skiing in. In the past, we have been getting lots of lift area skiers who like the "steep and deep" out on these two courses, so remember, you don't have to be a tele-bashing backcountry skier to take a Fed course!

We have also tried to address the most common problem on all of our courses - the weather! None of our instructors was willing to take on the task of changing the coastal weather patterns, so instead we located two of our ski touring courses away from the coast, and into some huts. On both the Esplanade Range and the Eldorado Creek ski tours we will take advantage of superb snow, great terrain and warm, dry evenings to help reinforce your winter backcountry skills.

All in all, we have an exciting new year coming up with the Federation. Whether it's a two day Snow Camping and Winter Survival course or a nine day ski tour, our qualified and experienced instructors will ensure that you get the best possible course.

Hope to see you out in the hills soon, and have a great Christmas season!

Brian Jones, Manager - Instructional Program

"This Christmas, give the gift of safety to someone you really care about"

A Federation of Mountain Clubs GIFT CERTIFICATE for one of our summer or winter safety courses will show a friend or loved one your concern for their safety.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

are available at the following locations:

- Coast Mountain Sports (Burnaby and Kitsilano locations)
- Mountain Equipment Co-op (Vancouver)
- Carletons Sport and Cycle (Vancouver)
- Great Outdoors (North Vancouver)
- The Mountain Shop (Whistler)
- Ocean River Sports (Victoria)

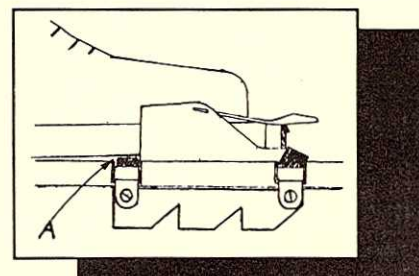
or

Contact the F.M.C.B.C. for purchase by telephone using Visa or MasterCard. Also available are certificates for various monetary denominations to be applied to any course offered in the 1990/91 season. F.M.C.B.C. Office: #336 - 1367 W. Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. Telephone: (604) 737-3053

H A R O L D ' S H A R S C H I S E N

A new product, a ski crampon, is being made by one of our members. Made of extruded aluminum, light weight and simple to use, this item will interest any ski mountaineer.

Available for under \$30.00 through Harold Rydell, BCMC Member, #254-7052 or Carleton's, Coast Mountain and Mountain Equipment Co-op.



Harschisen mounted for normal use.

Westmin Resources Ltd., owners of the mining operation at Myra Falls, have recently created a strong public reaction with announcements in the local newspaper that they need more electrical power.

Not only has Westmin printed a diagram showing 5 powerline routes crossing Strathcona Park, a predictably volatile move, but it has ignored BC Parks completely by going directly to the public.

Besides these new issues, old wounds have been reopened from the days of damming Thelwood and Tennent Lakes. When these hydro projects went ahead on the basis that they were essential, it was done over the strong objections of many people.

To the right is a letter from Ruth Masters, representing the Comox District Mountaineering Club. —Editor

Letter from Ruth Masters, Comox District Mountaineering Club

When we flushed Cream Silver out of Strathcona Park in 1988, we realized exploiters weren't gone for good; they were just backed up a bit until they could make a run at something else.

Now comes Westmin with its cry for more power. Surprisingly the Company did not approach Parks first, but ran a full-page ad in the Campbell River Mirror, hoping for a great swell of public support. Their power options presented were (a) new diesel generating plant, (b) new hydro developments in the Park, (c) raise lake levels, (d) tap BC Hydro grid with pole line along park road, (e) tap BC Hydro grid and bury some of the powerline in the park.

The Oyster River to Ralph River choice would seriously detract from the beauty spot of North America, Ruth Masters Lake.

CDMC wrote that we object to all of their options. We could live with an underwater line connecting the Hydro grid to the mine — but this has its risks also, since once established, when the mine finally leaves, the line could be used to take power *out of* the present systems at Thelwood and Tennant Lake in the Park.

We are firm that we want no further development in the Park.

Another scheme our Club wants no part of relates to the Mine's need for enormous quantities of gravel to shore up its tailing ponds in Myra Creek. The bait has been thrown out that this material could be dredged out of Buttle Lake at Ralph River — creating us a boat basin, swimming pool, etc.

The "inter-tidal" area in question has become a productive waterfowl habitat for Canada Geese and Swans. People have no problem launching canoes, and power boats are bad news on the lake. We believe the Ralph River campsite area can get along nicely without the proposed dredging, and we have so advised Parks and Westmin.

One observer pointed out to us that between when the hikers leave each Autumn and when the snow flies, everyone wanting to explore around the Park for resource purposes, goes in and does his thing.

The word from here is eternal vigilance.

THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA PRESENTS

K2 To the Summit of the Savage Mountain

Thirteen people perished on K2 in 1986, and eleven expeditions failed on it until 1990. Greg Child, author of "Thin Air" describes the 1990 American-Australian Success on the North Ridge of the world's second highest peak. Join us, **7:30 pm Wednesday, January 9th** at John Oliver High School, 41st at Fraser. Tickets **\$6** advance at Mountain Equipment Co-op, or **\$7** at the door.

FOREST RESOURCE COMMISSION'S INTERIM REPORT

The FRC Offers Options & Asks Opinions

Reprinted from Environment and Land Use Perspectives, Oct. 1990-Vol.II-No.10

The Forest Resources Commission, a BC government sponsored panel looking into the management and use of the province's forest land, has released its first report. Entitled **Option Paper Summary**, the document falls far short of the comprehensive review many were waiting for. This may not be a failure of the FRC, but simply highlight the fact that in British Columbia the state of our forest resource, its social and economic importance at home and abroad and the political nature of natural resource issues have combined, at the beginning of this decade, to create a complex and often convoluted minefield of opinion, perspective and policy. The FRC is probably just walking softly. Taking one careful step at a time.

The options paper was developed through extensive public consultation carried out over many months, during which the Commission received 1700 written briefs and held public meetings in 20 communities around the province. The Options Paper outlines three distinct visions garnered from this process: the enhanced stewardship view, the evolutionist view and the preservation view. In the latter vision the solution to land use conflicts and the protection of non-timber values is to simply withdraw the land from industrial forest exploitation; while the preceding views would manage the status quo to resolve outstanding issues and provide for better social returns from the forest resource.

Specifically, the paper provides the following observations.

The province needs strategic land use planning or a land use strategy. Such a strategy would provide for community stability, the maintenance of environmental quality and some form of priority zoning. As with all the issues surveyed in the report, options are provided reflecting public input to the Commission. For a land use strategy they are: present status, centralized planning and decentralized planning.

With regards to the forest tenure system there seems to have been a polarized view presented on long-term tenure and large forest products companies. One opinion reflects the view that long-term area based tenures are beneficial. The other—that they are bad. The Commission offers five options for consideration which provide for the opposing views. The options are captured by two principals: long-term, area based tenures are a

good thing and should be expanded or they are undesirable and should be reduced (e.g. smaller area based tenures) or eliminated.

Forest management received a fair bit of criticism. Public input, rate of harvest, biodiversity, integrated management, resource inventory and the capabilities of the Forest Service were key areas of concern. The Commission responded to input here by offering six options: current status; development of a new forest resources act; creation of a forest resources ministry and independent corporation; maintenance of current timber harvesting practices; selection logging only of natural forests and an increased level of sensitivity in harvest practices. It's interesting to note that forest renewal did not emerge as an issue of concern.

Not surprisingly, respondents from forest sector communities expressed the opinion that community stability should be a centre-piece of land use planning. They asked the Commission to prevent alienation of working forest; to restrict log exports and to establish sustainable local harvest levels. This, coupled with greater community control, would maintain employment and investment in rural communities. The FRC offers two options: current status and more community control.

The Commission recommends three options to address the issue of public involvement: status quo, expanded representation on Timber Supply Area committees, and the establishment of regional forest management boards or committees.

The Commission found that respondents questioned whether the province was receiving a fair economic return (24% GDP and 18% of employment along with \$2.8 billion of revenue to help provide for public services) from the forest resource. Four options were provided to reflect economic views: status quo; further development of a competitive log market; user fees for all forest activities, reflecting the cost of management and the introduction of value added community tenures.

Finally, the Commission found that improvement to education and information on forestry issues is needed. They offer four options for post-secondary education and education of forest workers; status quo; enhancement of UBC faculty; creation of a faculty of natural resource management and creation of a

forest worker training program. Education of and information for the general public are not specifically provided for in the Options.

The Commission is entertaining written comment on the options paper. For a copy of the paper or further information contact: BC Forest Resources Commission—Suite 700/747 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Letter from James Craig

I have long held the unthinking attitude that mountain bikes and hiking were not compatible on trails. I came to this point of view I think from seeing mountain bikes used off trails where the tires would damage heather and other growth. If such happenings were to be the basis of banning mountain bikers from the use of trails, then one should also ban hikers because hikers do as much if not more damage than mountain bikers in heather areas and meadows.

It is really on a wet trail that the bike can cause more damage than a boot since it leaves a rut in which the water can run and erode the trail.

(And) since many of these trails were built with public funds and since mountain bikers are part of the public, I don't think hikers can claim any prior right to the use of the trail.

I suspect that what troubles hikers is the experience that you refer to, mainly, that the hiker is distressed at finding anything mechanical on the trail. I have the same difficulty with crowds of people on a trail, whether in the woods or mountain meadows or mountain tops. Because numbers detract from the experience I seek, is that a reason for limiting the numbers who are entitled to be in an area at a particular time?

My son has become a mountain biker. He tells me that mountain biking is banned on many trails. In the Garibaldi area, the Parks Department proposes creating a biking trail. He says that type of trail which runs on the flat is not a mountain biking trail. He speaks for a small group of mountain bikers who travel on tracks, over logs, mud holes etc. Existing trails are used only as an access to the tracks they use on the North Shore mountains.

I think hikers are going to have to accept mountain biking and that some effort must be made to ascertain how they can be accommodated on trails and what it is that mountain bikers want and are prepared to do in order to avoid offending the sensibilities of hikers.

T R I P T O A U S T R I A

by Suzanne Mazoret

As mentioned in the last Cloudburst, six Directors and two staff had the opportunity, courtesy of Lufthansa and the Austrian National Tourism Association (A.N.T.O.) to visit Austria the first week in October to see and use their hut/trail system. We had a direct Lufthansa flight from Vancouver to Frankfurt and immediately flew on to Munich. A minibus took us to Stans, a small town just east of Innsbruck, from where our hike through the Karwendel Alps would begin.

That evening at our pension we were welcomed, by members of A.N.T.O., with schnapps and dinner, and a film presentation showing summer activities

As the result of bedding, food, and accommodation being provided, it was only necessary to carry a day pack with a change of clothes, and rain gear in the event of poor weather. This means that most people are able to visit these mountains, since they don't have to take a full backpacking load and be strong or able enough to carry one. Each hut we visited was serviced from a nearby village by a restricted four-wheel drive road which, in some cases, acted as the trail to the hut. Trails between huts in the alpine areas were similar to trails here and well-worn by use. Each 'Hutmaster' oversees the trails near his hut and supervises volun-

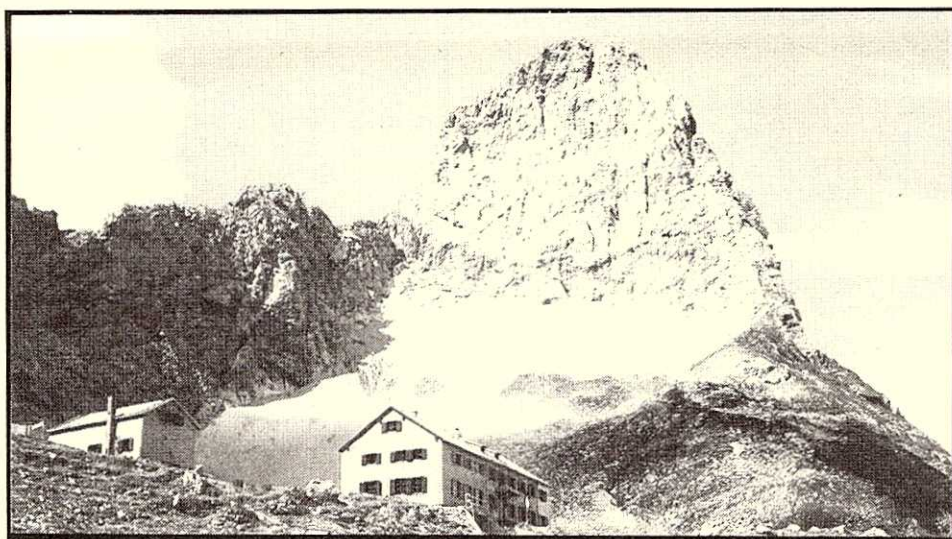
the rooms and change the sheets, which were starched and ironed. She clearly had her day's work set out and needed to get on with it.

Some of our group had set out to climb a nearby mountain; not as impressive as the previous day's spitz but almost as demanding, and as a result we again had a fairly late hiking start. This unfortunately meant we encountered the only rain on the trip, which turned into a downpour with a very crisp, cold wind behind it. As this was the shortest hike, about three hours only, and ended at the 'creme de la creme' of huts, the famous Karwendelhaus, the rain was not really a problem. The drying room of the hut was fully utilized that night and except for very thick wool socks, everything was dry by morning. Though the rain was then over, low cloud prevented us from seeing very much of the surrounding mountains and area. But the day's hike down out of the mountains passed pleasantly through a very long, pretty valley with rushing creeks and waterfalls enlivened by the previous day's rain, and the fall colours of the trees and other vegetation were beautiful. Early afternoon found us in the charming town of Scharnitz, where we were met by a minibus and taken south to the Stubai Alps.

From road's end a very short steep hike of one hour brought us up to the Adolf Pichler Hutte, on a rocky plateau just below the limestone peaks. This was the last weekend the hut would be open and on that Friday night we were the only guests. Short hikes and a quick peak climb were all we had time for next morning before we were picked up again for our return to Innsbruck. There we had an opportunity to visit the old city and do a little shopping before spending the final evening at the Hotel Sailer, where we were hosted to a farewell dinner in the local alpine club's dining room before our departure to Munich the next morning.

The trip was well planned and arranged to show us, in a very short time, two of the eleven mountain areas of the Austrian Alps. It gave us the opportunity to see, first-hand, how their trail system and hut system are managed. Because the huts provide good shelter and food, people who might not otherwise be able to, visit these mountains. For the very many visitors in such relatively small (to B.C.) areas the huts centralize activity, and act as protection to the environment.

Continued on facing page



in Tirol, the part of Austria we were visiting. The next day our hiking tour began, climbing upwards through a river gorge, fields, woods, alps (meadows) and finally above the tree line to Lamsenjoch Hutte on a rocky plateau at 1951 m. just below the Lamsenjoch Spitz, which was climbed by the more intrepid, less jet-lagged members of our group before the next day's hike commenced. Considering that the season, in early October, was nearly at its end, the hut was surprisingly busy. Most of the two person bedrooms were occupied, and quite a few people were above in the "mattress-laager" (usually a loft, with a continuous mattress to sleep as many as can fit in, and pillows and blankets provided).

All the huts we visited were popular, well-known and large; able to accommodate anywhere from 75 to 200 people. It is alpine law that no one can be turned away from huts; however, alpine club members have first priority on the beds and bedrooms. The huts provide full meals, and bar service with wine, beer and schnapps.

teers from the alpine clubs who maintain them. Trails were well-marked and signed. Each hutmeister sold maps and provided information about the area.

The next day's hike took us to a low pass and a descent to the next valley where we had our lunch in the village of Eng. This valley and the surrounding trails were very busy for a midweek day until we learned that it was October 3 - German Reunification Day, a holiday for that country. Hikers were certainly out in number, but so were children, families, older couples, and elderly hikers with canes - even nuns with full habits. All were enjoying the sunny fall holiday. Since the village can only be accessed by road from Germany, the number of visitors was explained.

From Eng we had a steady climb up the opposite side of the valley and a good view of the Lalliderer Spitz, a famous rockclimbing wall. Our destination for the night was Falken Hutte; a smaller hut not as busy as the last. The upper floor was ruled by a Fraulein with very definite ideas, particularly about when you should get up. As it was her responsibility to clean

VANCOUVER ISLAND GUIDE BOOKS

- Hiking Trails 1 Victoria & Vicinity
Hiking Trails 2 Southern Vancouver Island
Hiking Trails 3 Central and Northern Vancouver Island

These excellent books, complete with maps, photos and trail route descriptions, will make a very good Christmas present for anyone active or wanting to go hiking. Available from the Outdoor Club of Victoria's Trails Information Society, and many bookstores and outdoor equipment shops at \$8 each.

Island Delegates' Meeting of November 24

A very well attended meeting of 27 became a very cozy meeting when Bowen Park's Christmas Craft Fair pre-empted our meeting room without notice. Fortunately the windows opened, allowing us to make do with the tiny room we were given.

Club reports showed a lot of hiking activity, and the Federation's newest Member Club, the Heathens from Campbell River, earned instant admiration with an impressive description of their world-ranging mountaineering ventures.

As always, Strathcona Park and its future were high on the agenda. Clubs are gearing up for the public information meetings to be organized by the Strathcona Park Steering Committee in the new year, and an informational newsletter on management options for this park was shown by Parks staff. It will be made widely available in a few weeks. Other areas of concern are the Nahmint, Mt. Finlayson and the Cowichan Valley trails and Right-of-Way. The Federation will be looking into each of these issues.

Clubs have been asked to consider a formal Adopt-A-Trail process for trails they are or will be working on, and to promote trail adoption as a way to preserve Island trails and give them better protection from alienations.

You will probably soon see advertisements in your local paper promoting hiking club membership. Keeping up the number of members is an important part of being effective.

Parks' staff were thanked for attending. Each of the Vancouver Island clubs was represented and the Federation's President, Suzanne, Trails Committee Co-Chairperson, Gabriel, Executive Director, Jim and Member Services Manager, Sara, were over from Vancouver.

Next meeting: March 23, 1991

Indonesian Tour

Our leaders will take you on a guided tour of Indonesia's most beautiful nature reserves, volcanoes, villages and to exotic Bali.

- 14 and 21-day tours
- Small groups
- All inclusive price
- Living and dining among the locals
- Custom designed tours for clubs
- Regular departures as of March, 1991

Gateway Travels

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Call 732-3788 or
266-5714

TRIP TO AUSTRIA (Continued)

Certainly here in B.C. we have no comparable hut system, and those who visit our mountain areas must be much better equipped, and more knowledgeable about what they are doing. As the Hut Committee gets responses to its questionnaire and hears from delegates and members, the Directors who went

on the trip will be able to provide another viewpoint after seeing first-hand how the Austrian model works. It may or may not be what we would like to see here, but the positive and negative aspects of the European system should be understood by us, so helping the FMCBC develop its policy on huts in B.C.

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

Parks Plan 90, submitted by Jay MacArthur

The Ministry of Parks will be releasing a provincial parks system plan in late November or early December. They want your input to make sure the plan meets the needs of all park users. In early 1991, Ministry staff will be touring the province to present the plan and receive your comments.

Positive public support is very important to ensure that proposed major parks in the Adamants, Chilcotin and the Tateshini are designated. There are numerous smaller park proposals which also need your support.

Please call the Ministry of Parks in your area or write the Minister to get a copy of the Parks Plan 90 reports. Write to: Hon. Ivan Messmer, Minister of Parks, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4.

GST AND YOU

The Directors have chosen to exempt (yes, we have a choice) our membership fees from GST. This means the portion of your club fee which goes to the Federation will stay at \$9 per year.

Federation courses, like almost everything else, will have to be surcharged by 7% due to GST.

STAFF CHANGE

We welcome BRIAN JONES as the new Manager of Instructional Programs.

Brian will be looking after all aspects of our 1991 Winter and Summer courses, including the hiring of instructors. He will also work closely with the Safety & Education Committee to ensure a safe, high-quality program.

Brian has a very extensive background of guiding, teaching for the Federation, and personal climbing experience. He has a Winter and Summer Assistant Guide qualification from the ACMG.

It is Brian's particular concern to develop the consistency of instruction between instructors of Fed courses.

We thank Jim Haberl for a great contribution last year, running a program that received consistent high praise from participants.

For your information we include the following course statistics for last Winter.

Avalanche	122 participants
Intro Ski	15
Snow Camping	50
Ski Touring	43
Totals	230 participants and 527 participant days

Gold Seekers Will Return to the Cascades in 1991

by Vicki Haberl, BC Parks

1991 marks the 50th Anniversary of Manning Park. Several special events are being planned to celebrate this golden anniversary. Thousands of people drive through Manning Park every summer, unaware of what lies beyond the view from their car windows. BC Parks wishes to invite the people of British Columbia to explore a part of history and to appreciate the beautiful wilderness opportunities within this spectacular park. Throughout the summer BC Parks, in conjunction with the Federation of Mountain Clubs, will coordinate a series of guided hikes.

We need your help. We hope that some people who would not venture into the hills on their own, will take advantage of such an opportunity if guided by **experienced hikers**. That's you! Learning about the activities of your club is only one potential benefit these people may experience by joining you for a hike. And maybe you'll learn something too, as you look into the history behind some of the trails within the Manning/Cascade area...

Be a part of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations, and volunteer to lead a hike. A meeting will be held in the new year to discuss how volunteers from various hiking/outdoor clubs may participate in this exciting event. If you think you might be interested but would like more information, please call Vicki Haberl at BC Parks, 858-7161. We'll make sure you are notified of an organization meeting. We'd like to hear your ideas too.

The Heathens

(as in "on the heath" or moorland)

The Heathens are a group of closely knit and yet very loosely governed outdoor enthusiasts, most of whom make their home in Campbell River on Vancouver Island. Our nucleus is relatively small in number (about 30) and our range of outdoor pursuits is diverse. Members are predominantly climbers and hikers but among us are also skiers, cyclists, paddlers, divers and photographers. Our ages range from 16 to 58 years, and while some are novices, others have extensive experience, and still others are trained in first aid, avalanche awareness and mountain rescue procedures.

A typical season's itinerary may include rock climbing in Squamish, Yosemite or the Bugaboos, direct aid on Utah sandstone, alpine climbs in the Coast Mountains or Rockies, scaling Mexico's volcanoes, difficult winter ice-climbs or enjoyable summer rambles on our own Vancouver Island peaks, and the occasional venture even further afield. Regardless of the destination, environmental awareness, companionship, enjoyment and safety are the measures of our successes. Whether sunning ourselves near an alpine lake or hanging in slings, our club's nature tends to be social.

It is our hope that some of you will contact us when you are visiting Vancouver Island. An opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences, or to accompany and assist those as yet unacquainted with our vicinity would be considered a privilege.

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish the Federation and all its members continued success in the future both enjoying and protecting British Columbia's rugged wilderness.

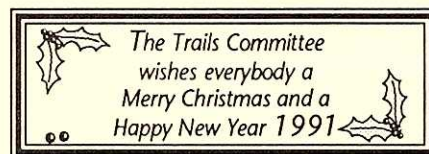
The Heathens: c/o #102 - 644 4th Avenue
Campbell River, BC V9W 3W9
President, Chris Barner (604) 287-4611
Treasurer, Fred Stanley (604) 287-4563

Trail News

By Charles Clapham & Gabriel Mazoret

There are now small parking areas available at the Horseshoe Bay and Eagleridge Crescent starts to the Baden Powell trail leading up to Black Mountain and Cypress Bowl. This is welcome news given the restrictive policies adopted by another administration in this area. We recommend all hikers who use these trails to respect the watersheds they pass through and thus merit the confidence placed in them by those providing the parking.

An inventory of Trails in the Alberni Valley is being produced by The Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce supported by the Alberni Valley Outdoor Club.



Zone Manager Needed

Due to injuries resulting from being struck by a van whilst cycling, Doug White of the Trails Committee has found it necessary to step down. Doug is the Adopt-A-Trail Manager of Zone A, from Squamish to Grouse Mountain. If you know this area well and are an active hiker with time for a monthly evening committee meeting, please contact one of the Trails Committee Chairmen, Gabriel Mazoret at #984-8401.

Doug will continue to maintain his adopted section of the Howe Sound Crest Trail between the Lions and David Pass.

Reopening of Centennial Trail

between Manning and Cathedral parks

The BC Centennial Trail is now cleared for hiking from Manning Park to Cathedral Park, due to the efforts in 1989 and 1990 of the North Shore Hikers and the Environment Youth Corps, working under the general direction of Merritt Forest District.

East of Pasayten River there had been two bad burns in the forest, with many deadfalls. The suspended footbridge over Pasayten River has not yet been replaced; one must cross on driftwood, or wade in late summer when the water is down.

Charles Clapham and Jack Scrivener took groups through this summer, and could give firsthand information.

Reported Bob Harris



Volunteers at Work

Many other trails need Adoptors to maintain them.

You and some friends can form a group and Adopt-A-Trail! And if you have a favourite, please suggest it to us. Lets get ready for next spring.

By Gabriel Mazoret

The following is the list of trails improved by volunteers this past season:

In the Lower Mainland

• The Outsetters worked on the Borden Ridge trail half way up • Vancouver Men's Club rebuilt the Elsay Lake Trail • The North Shore Hikers cleared The Squaw and • the Centennial Trail from Monument 83 to Trapper Lake • The BC Mountaineering Club worked on the Lake Lovely Water Trail to the 3300ft el. • Halvor Lunden keeps working along Eagle Ridge • The cleared and flagged route to Norvan Pass has been extended to Coliseum by Gabriel Mazoret • The Center Creek Camp maintained the trails to Flora Lake and • to Radium Lake • Some work has been done on Red Mountain Trail • The Whistler Rotary Club worked on the Rainbow Lake Trail and • upgraded the trail connection from the lake to Madely Lake • The North Vancouver Recreation Commission has done some work on the Alice Ridge Trail

In the Prince George area

The following trails have been cleared by the Caledonia Ramblers

• Torpy Trail (new trail). • Sugar Bowl Mountain • Viking Ridge • Fang Mountain • Grizzly Den • Raven Lake

On Vancouver Island

• Shepherd Creek Valley Trail has been cleared by the Alpine Club (Vanc. Island section) • Comox District Mountaineering Club has worked on the following: • Upper Myra Falls • Phyllips Ridge • Rosewall Creek • and has coordinated Bedwell Valley project • The Mountain Ramblers helped on the Phillips Ridge Trail • The Outdoor Club of Victoria worked on Sombrio Beach Trail and in • Goldstream Park

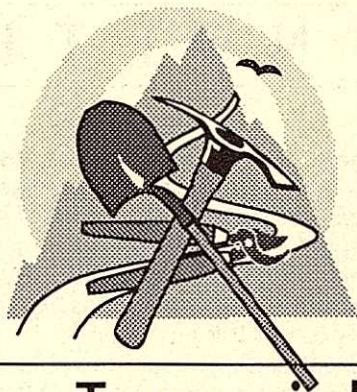
In the Kootenays

• The Kootenay Mountaineering Club has cleared Lemon Creek Trail

Did we miss anybody?

Please let us know by writing to the Trails Committee at the FMCBC office.

We should also thank the Ministry of Forest for their increased effort in building and improving many hiking trails. Thank you!



Adopted Trails

In the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island By Charles Clapham

The following list itemizes all the adopting and maintaining clubs of which we are aware and their trails in alphabetical order. If there are others, please let us know. If you are no longer active, also please tell us.

Golden Age Hiking Club	Baden Powell (Deep Cove to Mt Seym Hwy)
Banwell Group	Baden Powell (Mt Seym Hwy-Lynn Canyon)
Ramblers (West Van)	Baden Powell (Cleveland Dam-Lawson Creek)
Van. Litigation Support Services	Baden Powell (Black Mt Knob-Eagleridge Cr)
North Shore Hikers	Beth Lake
Outsetters	Borden Ridge
North Van Rec Commission	Brandywine Meadows
Varsity Outdoor Club	Brew Lake
Klister Group	Brunswick Mountain
Chilliwack 4-H Club	Centennial (Riverside Camp to Lost Creek)
Chilliwack Naturalists	Centennial (Tamashi Bridge to Slesse Park)
Chilliwack 6th Venturers	Cheam (from south)
Fraser Valley Hikers	Crickmer Mountain
North Shore Hikers	Deeks Lake
North Shore Hikers	Dog Mountain
North Shore Hikers	Eagle Mountain (from South West)
Glad Tidings Youth Group	Eaton Lake (from South)
Vancouver Natural History	Elk/Thurston Mountain
Burnaby North Sec School	First Brigade Trail (to Lake House)
Center Creek Camp	Flora Lake
Klister Group	Ford Mountain
North Shore Hikers	Gardner Mountain
1725 Branch Army Cadets	Greendrop Lake
Burnaby North Sec School	Harrison Lake to Lillooet Lake
Varsity Outdoor Club	Howe Sound Crest (Cypress Bowl-Lions)
Doug White and Friends	Howe Sound Crest (Lions to David Peak)
Chilliwack Outdoor Club	International Ridge
Alpine Club Canada (Vanc Br)	Lake Lovelywater
B.C. Mountaineering Club	Lions Trail (New)
Legion-280 Branch	Liumchen Lake
Alpine Club Canada (Vanc Br)	Lizzie Creek
Chilliwack 4th Venturers	Lookout Peak
North Shore Hikers	Petgill Lake
Center Creek Camp	Radium Lake
Vancouver Natural History	Rhododendron Trail (off Skagit River Trail)
Valley Outdoor Association	St Benedict Mountain
North Shore Hikers	Stawamus Squaw
Valley Outdoor Association	Sumas Mountain (from South Side)
Canfor Group	Weaver Lake
Youth Outdoor Rec Commission	Wedgemount Lake

On Vancouver Island

Comox District Mountaineering Club

Boston Ridge, Century Sam Lake
Comox Glacier
Lone Mountain, Mount Clifton, Poem Lake
Seal Bay Park Willmar and Forbush Lakes

Mike Nash - Caledonia Ramblers, Prince George

Is the Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC ready to become a truly provincial body, with full regional participation? Are the historically predominant lower mainland and Vancouver Island clubs ready to look outwards? **Are we ready as a group to grow to our full potential?**

It won't work, you may say. Neither our individual members nor the FMCBC have the time or the money to travel all over the province to attend meetings. Besides, most of the clubs, resource conflicts, and contacts with government agencies are concentrated in the high population areas. What does it matter that much of our mountain wilderness lies elsewhere in the province? Or that demands are being made on the mountain resource all over the province without our input? A group in McBride are fighting to preserve part of this resource in the Robson Valley and are working with the Forest Service on trail and cabin development. Is it important that they haven't heard of the FMCBC?

Times are changing. A few years ago, I made a plea to an AGM that this newsletter was critical as a means of reaching people. We've made good progress, as *Cloudburst* is now published more frequently and distributed to all members. The editors have accepted this column from Prince George for the past year, and in the previous issue they printed a list of member clubs and contacts as a result of a request from Ken Dawson, also of Prince George. But its size, format and content still have plenty of growing room. For a number of years, the FMCBC has assisted a few people from the interior to attend AGM's. More recently, the FMCBC has established 'regional' directors who will attend several meetings a year, and has agreed to hold a directors meeting in Prince George in the Fall of 1991. We in the north are pleased with these developments, and recognize that change can happen only so fast. But the aim of this article is to show that **we are still leaving a lot on the table!** I have been taking a look at a parallel organization which has a similar base in the lower mainland and Vancouver Island, but which has successfully tapped the potential of the rest of British Columbia. As a result of this survey, **I propose that the Directors of the FMCBC take a close look at the Federation of BC Naturalists as a model of what we could be.**

First their newsletter is much larger than *Cloudburst*, 32 pages compared to 10. It is easier to read, and full of regional content which they seem to have no

difficulty soliciting from their members. It contains stories of interest as well as the harder issues and obligatory columns. Whereas *Cloudburst* states in small print similar to a prestigious glossy magazine that unsolicited manuscripts will be considered for publication, *BC Naturalist* simply and prominently announces the deadline for submissions for the next issue. It welcomes its members to respond, and they do so with enthusiasm! **Every issue contains a full list of member clubs and contacts** similar to the last *Cloudburst*. The preparation work is done by volunteers, and the publishing is contracted professionally. It is printed on high quality newsprint, with the entire production costs covered by appropriate advertising. The FBCN pays only for the mailing. It is currently published four times a year, increasing to six in 1991. In addition, the FBCN is launching a *Journal of BC Natural History*, with the first issues in the Spring and Fall of 1991. This project is being run by volunteers in Kamloops who are taking advantage of the electronic age to involve members across the province.

Like the FMCBC, the FBCN is considered a middle of the road organization, much in demand for input and ideas by the provincial government. They have 36 member clubs, comprising 12 in the lower mainland, 7 on the Island and 17 in the interior. This compares with only 22 clubs belonging to the FMCBC, comprising 14 in the lower mainland, 6 on the Island and only 2 in the interior. **The difference is very striking, with 17 versus 2 clubs in the interior. The implication is that we have the potential to nearly double our membership and representation.** And, the FBCN has achieved this with only one paid, office support position.

Every club in the FBCN appoints a director, and in addition there are four regional coordinators and a director representing individual members. **Meetings are regularly held all over the province.** They have the same concentration of population issue as the FMCBC, and yet their AGM is held in the lower mainland on average only once every three years. They have achieved this by means of province wide representation, and by encouraging their members to be much more actively involved with the FBCN and with other member clubs as they travel around the province. It is not uncommon for members to vacation in another part of the province as part of a FBCN or member club event. They have

developed friendships with people of like interests all over BC, and **the AGM is an event worth driving 800 km to attend at members' own cost.** The AGM typically lasts several days, with one day of business, and the rest of the time given over to guest speakers, social events and field trips. The Spring 1991 AGM will be held in Prince George and may include field trips to the Kenny Dam (Kemano completion controversy), local industry, an ecological reserve, local areas of interest, and possible a mountain ski trip.

The FBCN is one of Canada's most successful federations, and although its values and mission may differ from the FMCBC, I believe that in some respects it could serve as a model of where our own Federation can grow to serve the mountain users of British Columbia.

Correction to October 1990 column on High Elevation Logging

"On the plus side, pest management is less of a problem due to the harsher environment". Instead, it read "...past management..." Sorry - Editor.

Publications

ENTERTAINMENT '91

The FMCBC has just the right gift for you this Christmas holidays. Think of buying something different and give that someone special a REAL surprise. Your \$40 will buy you romance, adventure, action, and education as well as support our environmental endeavours. Call this number (737-3053) and ask for the Entertainment '91 coupon book, and begin your descent into the world of fine discount dining and dancing. **AVAILABLE NOW!**

1991 COURSE BROCHURE

Last year, each Federation member was mailed a course brochure. At that time we had subsidized mailing. Now we don't.

If you want a brochure, and cannot pick one up at MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT CO-OP, ask us for one by phoning 737-3053 (between 8:30 and 5, weekdays) or writing to us. Winter is booking fast.

SAVE THE WILD

WCWC, Wild Side of Vancouver Island: Educational Report, Fall 1990.

CLAYOQUOT - ON THE WILD SIDE By WCWC.

These books are available @ 20 Water Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 1A4