

CDMC

Trip Report

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Sun Aug 17 to Sun Aug 24, 2014

 Leader: **Leslie Dargie**

 Co-Leader: **Ken Rodonets**

Sat. August 16th..... Leaving my house at 12 noon and driving up the East Fork Main Line, thru the higher logged off section, to gain some more elevation , we were there around 1:30 pm. We started hiking around 2 pm on the "new road" for about 1 km. We thanked Jody Frame (and son) for driving us up and then we disappeared into the brush. We managed to find the Castlecrag Mtn. trail and then followed that up and behind the mtn. When we passed where Sylvia Apps's pack was, we paused for a moment to wonder again where she went. The low cloud was all around us, and we wondered if the weather was going to improve or not. We found a spot to set up the tents closer to Mt. Frink with a running stream from some snow melt. Had supper around 6:30 pm. With some daylight left, Linda and Raelene went back up to Castlecrag Mtn.

Monday August 18th..... Up at 6:45 am. We left at 8:45 am, heading up the side part of George V and the boulder field to the top of the shoulder. Made it there by 10:25 am. (1,705 meters) After some water and snacks we were off again doing some more climbing up to the game trail. After some more little breaks we were going up the side of George V to the top. Got to the summit area at 12:10 pm. I found a rock cairn with the Alpine Club of Van. Isle. note book up there. They have the summit "name" as 1920 (1, 920 meters high). We signed in the book and then carried on down the large scree slope. Near the bottom of the scree slope, Raelene found a waterproof piece of paper from the same hike that Otto, myself, Brian Ross, Rob Apps, Tak O. and Mike N. tried 20 years ago. It was dated Sept. 5/ 1994. We put it in at the summit of George V, 20 yrs. ago. Down at the bottom of the scree slope we stopped for lunch break and the ladies went for a nice ice cold "minute" swim. There were two big pools with ice/snow on the sides. We got going again around 1:45 pm and headed up the ridge and then down the ridge and back up the other side. Took a break at 3:10 pm (elevation at 1,843 meters) Left at 3:20 pm heading towards Siokum Creek Valley. Otto tried to remember a easier way down to the valley floor and we followed him like a pack of sheep, only to be disappointed by the sheer rock cliffs. After some searching around, Otto finally gave up and we had to climb all the way back up the ridge to the higher ground. By the time we got to a good camping area before Siokum Creek Valley it was around 6:30 pm. (elv. 1,906 meters) We had good water there, good views of the mtns., great sunset pics. and the view to the strait.

and back. Everyone was in their tents by 9:15 pm.

Sunday Aug. 17th..... Up at 6:45 am. breakfast, packed things up and started for the summit of Mt.Frink. We left at 9 am, and with some small breaks, we were at the summit at 10:45 am. We left the summit area at 11:20 am and headed down the back side thru the boulder fields. Once thru the boulders and onto safe ground we stopped for lunch at 1 pm. We started again at 2 pm heading down the small ridges, slowly making our way down to the "Eric Gap". We made it down by 3 pm giving us time to find some good tent sites. Great views of Faith lake, Hope lake, and the route up and around George V mtn..

Dam Computer stuff.... due to the time out stuff put in a day wrong !!!

Tuesday Aug. 19th..... See if I can keep the days straight. Up at the 6:45 am. We left at 8:45 am heading down towards Siokum Creek Valley bottom very careful, picking our way down. When we got near the bottom of the valley, and instead of following my other way down and closer to the "head wall", I listened to everyone else and followed the flagging from another party that lead us about 1 km down the valley and then out. We then had to hike up the extra 1 km back up. We had lunch by the fresh glacier melt stream and left there heading up to the "headwall" at 1 pm. I call it the headwall because you have to climb out of the end of the valley. We got to the top of the ridge around 2 pm. (elv. 1,645 meters) After a short break it was up to the top of another ridge. At the top by 3:05 pm. (elv. 1,850 meters) After another break, we started at 3:30 pm, and headed towards the "escape route". We got there around 4 pm and decided to make our camp here as we were in some low cloud and poor visual views. (elv. 1,875 meters) This is the part of the trip where you must have good weather to continue because it is the only way off the ridge, once you are committed in going, you must go. This "escape route" leads down to the Carey Lakes and the logging roads. Later that night Otto mentioned that he slipped earlier in the day and sprained his ankle to where it was really sore.

Wed. August 20th.....Up at 6:45 am. Otto had a really sore ankle, and with the weather sounding like it was going "south" for a day, we decided to pack up and head out the escape route. While we waited for the pain pill to take effect for Otto, Linda and I went up the ridge farther on to see what we would have in store for us if we continued on. Hiking up the ridge did not take very long but with a heavy pack it may take a hour to the top of the ridge. (6,320 ft.) Linda and I explored some more and then came back to the group. We set off at 11:15 am for the Carey Lakes. Stopping for lunch at 12 noon, and going again at 12:35 pm, we continued down the ridges until 2:15 pm. Gave Otto a break. Stopped for another break at 4 pm and then continued down. Close to the camping area the flagging tape and cairns go towards a cliff band. We sent Raelene ahead and she said "it was fine" to come down. Little did we know that she didn't mention the 10 ft. drop that we had to go down. In doing so, Otto managed to step on an underground bees nest and in turn, got stung 3 or 4 times. Linda and I managed somehow to avoid the drop and the nest. We made it to a camping area by 6 pm, where we set up the tents, had supper. Made a few cell phone calls to arrange Jody to pick us up on the logging road. As we looked up towards the mtns., the clouds were down low.

Thursday Aug. 21st..... Up at 7 am. Otto took his pain pill, had breakfast, packed up and headed down at 9:20 am. We made it to the lower lake by the logging road by 12 :25 pm. Stopped there, had lunch, the ladies picked some blue huckleberries. With some dark clouds coming our way we decided to head out and start walking the logging road down to the Cruickshank main line. We left around 1:50 pm, gave Otto some breaks along the way. We were close to the bottom of the road when we had another break at about 2:50 pm. (6 kms of walking downhill) When we were thinking of hiking down to the main line around 3:30 pm, Raelene heard a truck. Sure enough it was Jody coming back up to get us. After downing some cold refreshments (thanks Jody) it was time to throw the packs in the truck and head back home.

This trip has a lot of up and down in elevation, along with boulder walking. You must be a strong and fit hiker to try this one. Special thanks to Jody for the drive up and the pick up. Thank you to Otto, Linda, and Raelene for coming out for this trip.



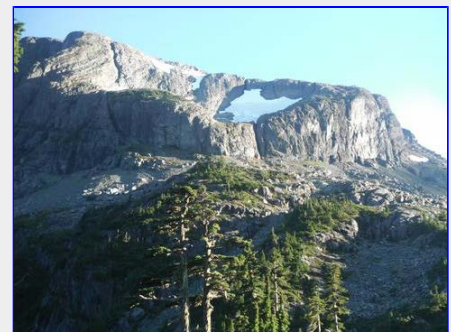
*1st. night camp site. Between
Castlecrag and Mt. Frink.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Hope lake from the shoulder of
Mt. Frink
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Female Ptarmigan, had 5 little
ones with her.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*The route up George V from
Eric gap
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Linda and Raelene going thru
the boulder field on the side
George V
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Going thru the game trail, below
George V (don't slip)
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Climbing out of the Siokum
Valley*

[Ken Rodonets photo]



Would you pick up these guys ?

Sorry no rides.

[Ken Rodonets photo]

*This is what we hiked thru for 4
days. (Mt. Albert Edward in the
far background)*

[Ken Rodonets photo]



*Thanks Jody for the cold
refreshments*

[Jody Frame photo]

Report contributors: Ken R,

Participant list (5 of 5): Raelene B, Leslie D, Linda H, Ken R, Otto W,

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