

JANUARY
2008

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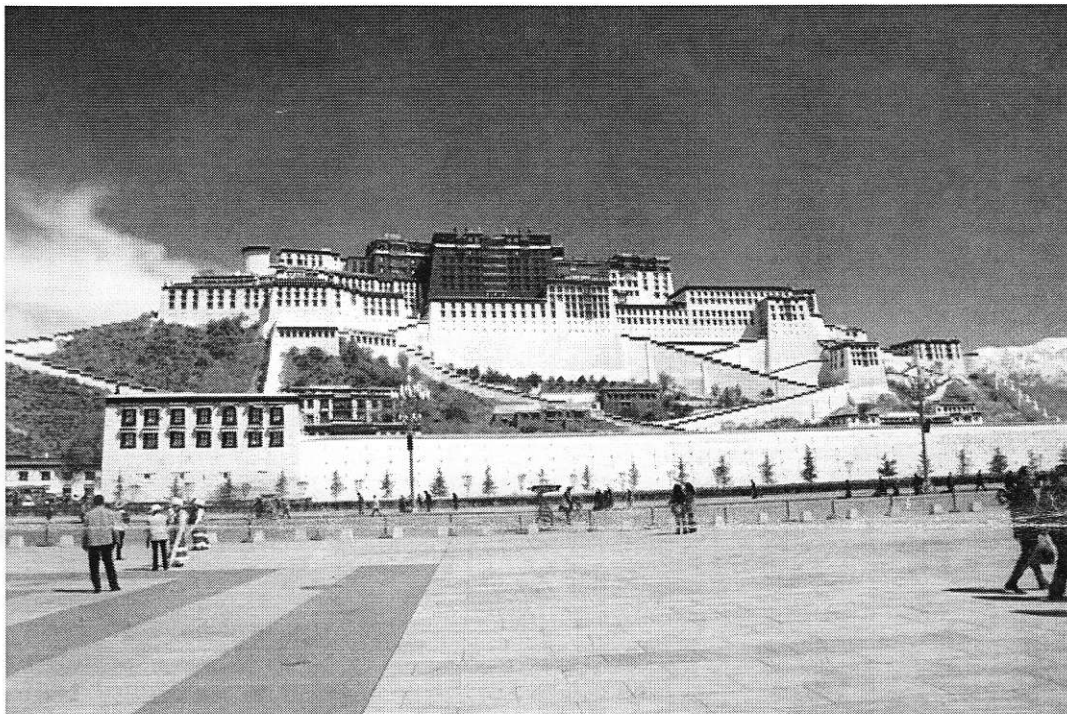
Peninsula Wilderness Club meets on the second Monday of every month at 7 pm at the Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Perry Avenue in East Bremerton. The public is cordially invited.

China, Tibet and Cambodia

Monday, January 14, 7 pm

Presented by: Kevin and Gail Gross

Join Kevin and Gail as they recap their four-week trip to China, Tibet and Cambodia. There was much to see, history to learn, and controversy to contemplate. Their trip included visiting such notable sights as: the Great Wall near Beijing; the Terracotta Warriors in Xian; numerous Giant Pandas (yes, very cute); a four-day cruise on the Yangtze River viewing sights upstream from the Three Gorges Dam; the incredible Potala Palace, Barkhor Market and Jokhang Temple in Tibet; the dazzling night-time lights of Hong Kong; and the awesome abandoned temple complex near Siem Reap, Cambodia. (See related article on pages 5-6)



PWC Weekends at Copper Creek Hut (MTTA):

The PWC was successful in obtaining two great nights at Copper Creek hut for next season, Saturday, February 23rd and Saturday, March 22nd.

This means, we have a total of 14 slots for guests on each weekend.

Cost of this outing is \$25, of which \$15 will be refunded if you show up (you forfeit the total \$25 if you are a no-show). As we usually do, we will draw names for these slots. The drawing will be at the regularly-scheduled monthly meeting in January. If you can't make the meeting in January, but would still like to go, send an e-mail to Doug Savage, thehiker@comcast.net, to get on the list. He will keep track of who is going.

If anybody else wants to coordinate the drawing, please let me know.

Monthly

MAP: Monthly Activity Planning

Thursday, January 10, 7 pm

Contact: John and Ellen Knott, (360) 710-1158

Discuss club business and help schedule outings at the Knotts' home in Bremerton.

January Potluck

Friday, January 25, 7 pm

Contact: Tom Leurquin, (206) 842-5906

Visit with fellow PWCers at Tom's home on Bainbridge Island. Bring an entrée or side dish to share. As host, Tom will provide the dessert.

Date

Various

Outing / Meeting

Illahee Preserve Work Parties

1/1 Green Mountain Hike and Breakfast Feed

1/1 Hike Fort Worden

1/6 Cross-Country Ski Hyak (Beginners)

1/6 Ski Snoqualmie Mt. (Advanced Skiers)

1/10 MAP: Monthly Activity Planning

1/12 Duckabush Dog Hike

1/13 Cross-Country Ski, Road 061

1/14 General Meeting, 7 pm

1/18-1/21 Cross Country Skiing in Winthrop

1/19 Ski Mt. Catherine Loop

1/19 MTTA Moonlight Dinner at Copper Creek

1/19-21 Snow Caves

1/26 Ski Crooked Couloir at Snoqualmie Mt.

1/27 Ski/Snowshoe Steeple Rock

Contact

Dale Boyle, dboyle@web-o.net, 360-792-1714

Ellen Schroeder, 360-479-7855

Doug Savage/Venita Goodrich, 360-698-9774

Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

John and Ellen Knott, 360-710-1158

Karla Piecuch, 360-598-3601

Dale Boyle, 360-792-1714

Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

Emily Grice, 206-842-7883

Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

Erin Hennings, 360-621-6961

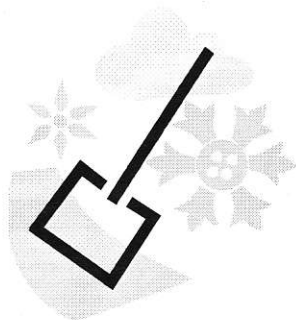
Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Jon DeArman, 360-697-1352

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	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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Outings

A Word About Outings

All PWC outings and other activities are open to anyone, but if you enjoy our company and what we do, we would like you to become a member. The persons sponsoring trips should not be considered instructors or leaders. If you are unsure of your abilities, discuss the trip thoroughly with the organizer. Each participant is responsible for his or her own comfort and safety on any outing. Always carry the 10 essentials.

Pet Policy

Please leave pets at home when attending PWC outings unless the trip is specifically listed as welcoming them.

Please Call Early

As a courtesy to the sponsor of an outing in which you are interested, please try to call at least two days before the trip for single-day outings, and as soon as possible for overnight outings. This allows the sponsor time to make necessary arrangements, or alternate plans should a trip be canceled for some reason. Your consideration will be greatly appreciated.

Illahee Preserve Work Parties

Various

Contact: Dale Boyle, dboyle@web-o.net, 360-792-1714

Dale is looking for volunteers to participate in monthly work parties at Illahee Preserve. Illahee Preserve is a 400-acre preserve in Bremerton, bordered by the streets Riddell, McWilliams, Fuson and Almira and by the Puget Sound. The goal of the work parties is to restore Illahee Creek as a salmon creek. If you are interested in doing some volunteer work close to home, contact Dale.

Green Mountain Hike and Breakfast Feed

Tuesday, January 1

Contact: Ellen Schroeder, 360-479-7855

Join the Monday Hikers for their annual New Year's Day hike and breakfast feed. Hike Green Mountain from the Wildcat Lake Trail, then dig in on all-you-can-eat pancakes for breakfast. Cost: \$3

Hike Fort Worden

Tuesday, January 1

Contact: Doug Savage & Venita Goodrich, 360-698-9774

Join Doug and Venita for a New Year's Day hike at Fort Worden. Afterward, we'll stop at the Water Street Tavern for refreshments.

Cross Country Ski Hyak (Beginners)

Sunday, January 6

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

We'll ski the John Wayne Trail. Suitable for beginners, this trail is as flat as it gets! You'll need a Sno-park Pass and a Groomed Trails Pass.

Ski Snoqualmie Mt. (Advanced Skiers)

Sunday, January 6

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

This will be a loop trip, up the face and ski down toward Alpental. Expert skiers only.

Duckabush Dog Hike

Saturday, January 12

Contact: Karla Piecuch, 360-598-3601

Bring the dogs and hike the Duckabush. How far we go will depend on the weather and the group's choice.

Cross Country Ski, Road 061

Sunday, January 13

Contact: Dale Boyle, 360-792-1714

As close as one can get to ski-able snow. We'll ski where we find snow!

Cross-Country Skiing in Winthrop

Friday, January 18 - Monday, January 21 (DATE CHANGE)

Contact: Emily Grice, 206-842-7883

Enjoy a PWC tradition: join Emily for the annual MLK weekend trip to Winthrop. Enjoy the best groomed trails in the state.

Ski Mt. Catherine Loop

Saturday, January 19

Contact: Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

The Mt. Catherine Loop is about an eight-mile ski loop, of intermediate caliber, with 1100 feet of elevation lost/gained, best completed with waxless-based, metal-edged skis. The loop starts at Snoqualmie Summit's, Summit East, Nordic Center, and costs \$14 for the two-ride lift ticket, needed to access the ridge top where the loop becomes, almost, all downhill from there.

MTTA Moonlight Dinner at Copper Creek

Saturday, January 19

Contact: Erin Hennings, 360-621-6961

Ski or snowshoe in to Copper Creek Hut and then sit down to a delicious prime rib dinner. After dinner, head back out to your car. Call Erin for details, or visit skimtta.com for more information.

Snow Caves

January 19-21 (tentative)

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Probably we'll head to Blewett Pass, but call Kevin for definite information as to location and date(s).



Outings

Ski Crooked Couloir at Snoqualmie Mt.

Saturday, January 26

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

For expert skiers only. Ski Crooked Couloir, on the steep north-side face of Snoqualmie Mountain.

Ski/Snowshoe Steeple Rock

Sunday, January 27

Contact: Jon DeArman, 360-697-1352

Intermediate skiers and beginning snowshoers will enjoy this winter backcountry trip into the Steeple Rock area of ONP. The un-groomed track follows the undulating forested ridge line, opening into gentle bowls at the rock face. The more adventurous will climb Steeple Rock from the back side while others enjoy lunch, hot toddies and skiing the snow bowls. **BRING YOUR DRINKING CUP.** Jon will supply hot toddies. Climbers need an ice axe.

MTTA Taste of Tahoma

Saturday, February 2

Contact: Erin Hennings, 360-621-6961

Visit the website, skimtta.com for information about this event.

Ski at Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood

Tuesday-Thursday, February 5-7

Contact: Jon DeArman, 360-697-1352

Enjoy spectacular skiing and a stunningly beautiful historic lodge on Mt. Hood in Oregon. If you are interested in this outing, it is time NOW to make your reservations.

Winterfest '08

Friday, February 15 - Monday, February 18

Contact: Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

See page 5 for a complete description of this outing.

(Another) MTTA Moonlight Dinner

Saturday, March 15

Contact: Erin Hennings, 360-621-6961

Ski or snowshoe in to Copper Creek Hut and then sit down to a delicious prime rib dinner. After dinner, head back out to your car. Call Erin for details, or visit skimtta.com for more information.

Windsurfing at South Padre Island, Texas

April 5-13

Contact: Dale Boyle, 360-792-1714

This is the furthest south one can be and still be in the U.S. It lies between the coast and the barrier islands. Dale will give free windsurfing lessons to those who join him on this outing.



A group of PWCers enjoy a last-minute ski trip to Reflection Lakes on December 16. *Photo courtesy of Jon DeArman*

Mountaineers' Courses

Alpine Scrambling Course

The Kitsap Branch of the Mountaineers is tentatively launching a new Alpine Scrambling course beginning March 2008. No previous climbing experience is required, although good physical conditioning is a "must". (A good self-assessment would be to carry a 20-pound pack up a trail or slope, 2000 feet in two hours or less. Mount Walker, near Quilcene, is a recommended assessment route.) Alpine scrambling involves ascending rock, scree, talus, ice and snow to summits and ridges. Some trips are short, one-day ascents, while others involve multiple day backpacks and/or steep, exposed climbing. Prospective participants should be aware that "mountaineering" quality boots are required. Backpacking boots are normally not sufficient. Ice axes and mountaineering helmets are also required.

The main goal of this course is to build skill and experience on non-technical terrain. Goals and objectives for individuals will be based on discussions with the course leadership. Graduation requirements involve completing three scrambles (one snow, one rock, and one choice) and five classroom sessions, and attending five field trips for skill and experience development. One year is allowed to complete this work. A current Mountaineering-Oriented First Aid card must be obtained to graduate course. Graduation may not be achievable for all, and intermediate goals are encouraged. Fees for the course entitle the participant to one year of involvement with the program. The fee is \$150.

There will be a minimum student enrollment of six students to enable the course to take place. A commitment to the course is required by February 1, 2008. Membership in the Mountaineers must be up-to-date and fees must be paid to enroll. Sign up online or with the Mountaineers' clubhouse.

For more information, call or email Mike Raymond at 360-437-9379, or mike-elaine@msn.com.

Special Outings

Winterfest 2008 — February 15,16,17,18

This year's WINTERFEST will be held at the Stevens Pass Mountaineers Cabin; located at the 4061-ft summit of Stevens Pass. The cabin is 4 stories high, sleeps 55 people and has men's, women's, family and couples dorms plus kitchen, dining and living areas.

- ~ Ski from the Cabin door to the lifts and from the lifts to the door
- ~ XC ski / Skate ski / Snowshoe 20 miles of groomed trails in Mill Valley
- ~ Ski / Snowshoe climbs to skyline Peak, directly across the road from lodge and Lantam Lakes above Mill Valley.
- ~ BC ski / Snowshoe miles of Forest Service Trails in the area. Sno-park pass required at some trailheads
- ~ Snowshoe PCT located on ridge above Cabin
- ~ Shop in Leavenworth located 20 miles east
- ~ Drink HOT TODDIES with Tom and Cathy each evening in the Stevens Bar.

COST: \$65 for Friday, Saturday, Sunday nights, includes all breakfasts and dinners. **Bring your own snacks for lunch.** Full service kitchen available for use (includes microwave).

No alcohol inside cabin, but the bar is a romantic 5-minute walk through the snow and is open until 11 pm

Make Reservations for Winterfest by calling Greg Myrick at 649-1648. Or, for details about the cabin call Jon DeArman, at 697-1352.

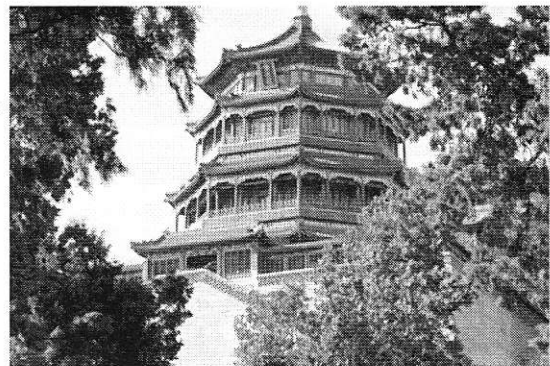
Trip Report

China, Tibet and Cambodia

by Kevin and Gail Gross

(all photos courtesy of Kevin and Gail Gross)

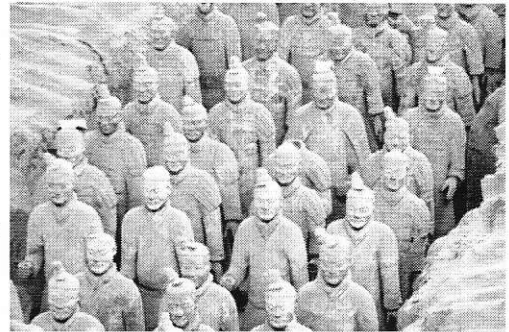
After nearly a year of waiting and planning, it was finally time to leave for our month-long trip to Southeast Asia to see the sights about which we had only read. The bags were packed—it seemed that most of the purchases made for the trip were returning to the country of origin as evidenced by labels stating "Made in China." After a long, long twelve-hour flight (complete with screaming children) from San Francisco, we finally arrived in Beijing.



One of the many sights to see in-and-around Beijing is the Great Wall. We were fortunate enough to view the Great Wall in two places. The most enjoyable was an unrestored section with only our tour group present—lots of time and space to absorb all of the history in peace and quiet. From there it was on to a very crowded and noisy restored section, complete with annoying souvenir vendors and lots of pushy people.

Other sights to see in Beijing included Tiananmen Square and the adjacent Forbidden City. The sheer size of Tiananmen Square was most impressive. (It is the largest public square in the world, being over a mile in length.) The heavy military presence and numerous security cameras served as a quiet and ever-present reminder of the events of 1989. The Forbidden City, with its large portrait of Mao marking the entrance, showed just how extravagantly the ruling class lived during centuries past.

From Beijing, it was time to travel to Xian via overnight train. Xian is home to the Terracotta Warriors that guarded the tomb of the Qin dynasty emperor. After being constructed nearly 2,000 years ago, the more than 6,000 life-size Terracotta Warrior statues were forgotten until a local farmer discovered them in 1974 while searching for a location for a new village well. Today excavation and restoration work are ongoing. The sight of a life-size army of terracotta figures is incredible with each figure having its own individualized face and body. The figures were entirely painted at one time.



Between our visits to the cities of Xian and Chengdu was a very relaxing four-day cruise on the Yangtze River along the continually-rising water level behind the Three Gorges Dam. A great deal of controversy surrounds the construction of the world's largest dam—destruction of farmland, cities and historical sights, along with the displacement of a large number of people. The Three Gorges Dam will offer needed flood control, power generation and increased navigation. The water behind the dam will rise an additional 75 feet in the next two years.



It was then time for a massive amount of cuteness—Giant pandas! The most pandas found together anywhere in the world are in this preserve near Chengdu, ranging from the very young to the old and very contented. It was great fun viewing these unique animals almost eye-to-eye, separated only by a small, dry moat. After passing an equivalent to the teenage years, most just wanted to eat, sleep and lay around looking adorable and happy.

Finally, it was time to fly to our most-anticipated destination—TIBET. We had visions of pigs and chickens running up and down the aisle in the plane that we would fly in from Chengdu to Tibet. It turned out that the plane was a very new and large Airbus. The airport in Lhasa, Tibet, was just as new. Driving into Lhasa, the Potala Palace suddenly came into view—what an incredible sight with its 13 stories and gleaming white- and red-painted exterior walls sitting high on a hill. After going to our nearby hotel, we found that we were in close proximity to the Barkhor Market and Jokhang Temple. The Barkhor Market was a place where one could wander for hours and still be fascinated with the sights, sounds, people and merchandise. We spent any spare time that we had over the next few days strolling through the marketplace.

From Tibet, we traveled to Hong Kong. What a contrast with Tibet in elevation (near sea level rather than the 12,000 feet of Lhasa), climate (hot and humid versus cold and dry), cultures, and just about everything else. Hong Kong is a huge, bustling city that is best viewed at night with all of its lights. It is said that Hong Kong has a million dollar view at night, because that is what the lights cost each night.

After a few days in Hong Kong we moved on to the final phase of our trip—Siem Reap in Cambodia. The highlight was the massive temple complex that is being reclaimed from the jungle. The temples were built by the various rulers of the Khmer Empire from 800 to 1100 AD. It seems that many of the kings strived to build a temple celebrating his rule more grand than any of the previous rulers' temples. An estimated one million persons lived in the area during that time; around 1200 AD, the population dispersed and the temples were abandoned and forgotten.



After a wonderful four weeks, it was finally time to head home. After a flight to Hong Kong and a night's stay on the 38th floor of a hotel overlooking the harbor and all the shining city lights, we caught an early morning flight back to the United States with a lot of memories and appreciation for all that we have.

Club News

Welcome to New Members

PWC welcomes new members: Wendy McClure of Poulsbo, and Mel Melmed and Steven Carlyle of Port Angeles.

Door Prize Winner

At the December meeting, we were lucky enough to have two door prizes. Janice McFarland won a pair of ski poles, and a photograph donated by Ed Book was won by Emily Grice.

Jon's Minute

At the December meeting, Jon talked about avalanche safety. His handy reminder cards are available on our website.

Meeting Refreshments

Thanks to all who brought snacks to the December meeting! Contact Doug Savage @ 360-698-9774 if you would like to bring snacks to the next meeting.

We Need You!

Each month the club's MAP meeting and potluck dinner are in need of volunteer hosts willing to share their home for an evening. If you can handle a small home invasion, please contact the club secretary, Barbara Hager, at 360-692-5121.

Sponsor an Outing

We are always looking for people to sponsor outings for the PWC. If you are planning a trip, let us know about it! Come to the MAP meeting the Thursday before the General Meeting to discuss your plan for a trip. You can submit trip descriptions to the PENWICLE by contacting Karla Piecuch at penwicle@hotmail.com or 360-598-3601. Planning a last-minute outing? No problem - post your trip on the PWC website by filling out the form at <http://www.pwckitsap.org/>

Trip Reports & Photos Wanted

Do you have a great story to share about a recent trip? Karla Piecuch is looking for trip reports to print in the PENWICLE. Trip reports can be all text, all photos, or any combination of the two. There are no length requirements. Please send trip reports and photos to Karla at penwicle@hotmail.com

Scrapbook Photos Wanted

Sue DeArman, our Scrapbook Editor, is looking for photos of PWC activities. Please include your name, details of the trip (date and location), and people and places in the pictures. Electronic photos are welcome, too. Contact Sue DeArman, 360-697-1352, dearmans@comcast.net

Update Your Email Address

Does the PWC have your current email address? If not, contact Barbara Hager, Membership Coordinator, to update your email address and other contact information. Barbara can be reached at 360-692-5121 or greenthumb@telebyte.com

PWC Online...www.pwckitsap.org

Please contact Venita Goodrich at 360-698-9774 for inquiries regarding the PWC website. Submissions to the editor of the PENWICLE will be sent to the website, unless requested otherwise.

Club Business

Joining the PWC or Membership Renewal

The PWC General Meeting is held the second Monday of each month, 7 pm, at the Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in East Bremerton. To join or renew, please see form on back of newsletter. Receive a discount on select merchandise or services at the following businesses with your PWC membership, but check with vendor for details:

- Olympic Outdoor Center, Poulsbo
- Vertical World Climbing Gym, Bremerton
- Silverdale Cyclery, Silverdale
- Commander's Beach House Bed and Breakfast, Port Townsend
- Ajax Café, Port Hadlock
- Kitsap Sports, Silverdale
- Poulsbo Running, Poulsbo

New members will receive a membership card with their New Membership packet. All members can pick up a card at the monthly meeting.

Address Changes and Member Address-Phone List

Address changes should be sent to Barbara Hager at Peninsula Wilderness Club
P.O. Box 323

Bremerton, WA 98337-0070,

or email greenthumb@telebyte.com, or call 360-692-5121.

Members should also contact Barbara if they wish to receive a new membership directory.

PENWICLE Submissions

Submissions to the PENWICLE must be received by the Friday after the General Meeting to insure a place in the next issue.

Contact Karla Piecuch at penwicle@hotmail.com or 360-598-3601.

Officers & Staff

President:	Greg Myrick	360-649-1648
Vice President:	Erin Hennings	360-621-6961
Secretary:	Barbara Hager	360-692-5121
Treasurer:	Jill Hawes	360-275-5402
Board of Directors:	Dale Boyle	360-792-1714
	Venita Goodrich...	360-698-9774
	Kevin Kilbridge ..	360-871-2537
	Kevin Koski	360-373-7429
Entertainment:	Joe Weigel	360-479-5116
Events:	Erin Hennings	360-621-6961
Refreshments:	Doug Savage	360-698-9774
Scrapbook:	Sue DeArman	360-697-1352
Membership Coordinator:	Barbara Hager	360-692-5121
Website Editor:	Venita Goodrich...	360-698-9774
Penwicle Editor:	Karla Piecuch	360-598-3601
Penwicle Proofreader:	Steve Dikowski	360-692-8386

PWC

Join or Renew Membership

PWC

The Peninsula Wilderness Club is an informal organization for persons interested in active outdoor pursuits. Main activities include hiking, backpacking, mountain climbing, rock climbing, and skiing. All outings, from casual hikes to technical mountain sports, are initiated by individual members. These members are volunteers who generously offer to make minimal arrangements so an outing can take place. They do not accept responsibility for the safety or care of any participant. The PWC does not conduct instructional programs and members are expected to have whatever clothing, equipment, skills, and physical conditioning are appropriate for the outing they wish to join. Members are expected to practice responsible environmental stewardship and must accept that there are dangers and a risk of injury in most outdoor activities.

Dues are \$25 per household per year. Send a check or money order to:

Peninsula Wilderness Club

P.O. Box 323

Bremerton, WA 98337-0070

Please check if: New Member(s) ☐ Renewing Member(s) ☐ Change of Address ☐

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

(Please print clearly)

☐ Check here if you wish to receive the newsletter as an Adobe PDF document by e-mail INSTEAD OF a printed copy.

☐ Check here if you do NOT wish any information to be included in the list distributed to members.

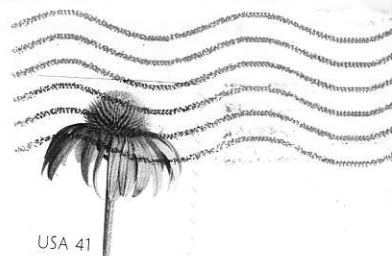


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Peninsula Wilderness Club
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