

**Chong Kumdan I: Climbing a 7000-meter Peak in the Indian Himalaya**

Monday, April 14, 7 pm

Presented by: Christopher Robertson

Five India- and five US-based members of a 2007 Indian/American Expedition to the East Karakoram team planned to make the first ascent of Chong Kumdan II in a barely explored part of Jammu & Kashmir in Northern India. This region is sandwiched between disputed Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to the northwest and the Aksai Chin area of China to the northeast. Our expedition was only the third allowed into the area.

Our approach was from the Nubra Valley along the historic Silk Route from Persia to China. The portion of the Silk Route we traveled crossed over the 5300 meter Saser La (pass) on the Skeleton's Trail. The Chong Kumdan glaciers feed the Shyok River, which translates as the river of death—seemingly not such an auspicious area!

After a two-week trek that included crossing glaciers that had recently surged, we found our expedition blocked by impassable glacial conditions. We changed our objective to a new route on Chong Kumdan I. Our second ascent of the peak involved 400 meters of 55-degree slope to the crest of the Southeast Ridge. From there, we climbed the East Ridge to the 7071-meter summit.

(For information about our presenter, see page 5)

*Photo courtesy of Chris Robertson*



# Monthly

## MAP: Monthly Activity Planning

Thursday, April 10, 7 pm

Contact: Doug and Venita Savage, 360-698-9774

Discuss club business and help schedule outings at Doug and Venita's home in Illahee.

## April Potluck

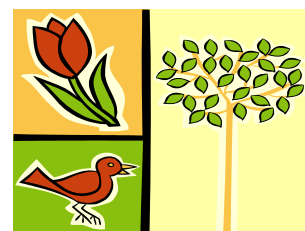
Friday, April 25, 7 pm

Contact: Paul Dutky and Linda Brown, 360-479-2683

Visit with fellow PWCers at Paul and Linda's home in Bremerton. Bring an entrée or side dish to share. Paul and Linda will provide the dessert.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Outing / Meeting</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Various	Illlahee Preserve Work Parties	Dale Boyle, dboyle@web-o.net, 360-792-1714
4/1, 2, or 3	Cross-Country Ski or Snowshoe at Cabin Creek	Emily Grice, 206-842-7883
4/5 or 4/6	Hike the Lower South Fork Skokomish	Doug Savage, 360-698-9774
4/7, 8, 9, 10, or 11	Ski/Snowshoe Camp Muir (weather-dependent)	Doug Savage, 360-698-9774
4/10	MAP Meeting,	Doug and Venita Savage, 360-698-9774
4/11-4/13	Closing Weekend at Stevens Pass	Jon DeArman, 360-697-1352
4/12	Snowshow the PCT at Stevens Pass	Karla Piecuch, 360-598-3601
4/12	Hike the Lower Dungeness Trail	Tom Leurquin, 206-842-5906
4/13	Climb Mt. Ellinor	Gary Stringer, 206-780-6760
4/14	General Meeting	Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648
4/19	Mt. Ellinor: Ice Ax Practice and Climb	Doug Savage, 360-698-9774
4/19	Beach Hike on Whidbey Island	Shelly Fleming, 360-779-2275
4/19-4/20	Mt. Baker Ski: Ptarmigan Ridge/Winter Camp	Brian Steely, 360-297-3825
4/19-4/20	Rampart Lake via Lake Lillian	Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429
4/20	Meet a Native: Botanizing Along the Duckabush River Trail	Wendy McClure, 360-779-3820
4/22	Trash Pick-up via Kayak	Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429
4/25	April Potluck	Paul Dutky/Linda Brown, 360-479-2683
4/26	Bike the Foothills Trail	Joan Edwards, 360-509-5297
4/26-4/27 or 5/3-5/4	Anvil Rock Bivy/Camp on Mt. Rainier	John Knott, 360-710-1158
4/27	Photographic Ramble to Murhut Falls	Emily Grice, 206-842-7883

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	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	27	28	29	30					25	26	27	28	29	30	31



# Outings

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## 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.

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## 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.

## Cross-Country Ski or Snowshoe at Cabin Creek

Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, April 1, 2, or 3

Contact: Emily Grice, 206-842-7883

## Hike the Lower South Fork Skokomish

Saturday, April 5 or Sunday, April 6 (weather-dependent)

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

## Ski/Snowshoe Camp Muir

April 7,8,9,10, or 11 (weather-dependent)

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

## Closing Weekend at Stevens Pass

Friday, April 11– Sunday, April 13

Contact: Jon DeArman, 360-697-1352

Jon and Sue will host closing weekend at the Stevens Pass Mountaineers cabin. The best snow of the year is in April! Learn to use those NEW ALPINA SKIS at the pass. Jon and Doug will be offering basic Telemark and Parallel ski-instruction to PWC members. Come join us for the final weekend of lift-skiing. For overnight reservations, call the Mountaineers at 800-573-8484.

## Snowshoe the PCT at Steven Pass

Saturday, April 12

Contact: Karla Piecuch, 360-598-3601

For anyone who wants to snowshoe rather than ski on Saturday of Closing Weekend, join Karla for a snowshoe on the Pacific Crest Trail at Stevens Pass.

## Hike the Lower Dungeness Trail

Saturday, April 12

Contact: Tom Leurquin, 206-842-5906

This is a lowlands hike to avoid the snow still present at the higher elevations. This 8.2-mile hike has about 800' of elevation gain and a high point of 2400'. Weather-dependent.

## Climb Mt. Ellinor

Sunday, April 13

Contact: Gary Stringer, 206-780-6760

## Mt. Ellinor: Ice Ax Practice and Climb

Saturday, April 19 (note date change)

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Great introduction to the use of an ice ax for beginners, and an excellent opportunity for everyone to brush up on their skills. There will be instruction, practice, a climb to the top, and an exhilarating 2000-foot glissade down.

## Beach Hike on Whidbey Island

Saturday, April 19

Contact: Shelly Fleming, 360-779-2275

We'll walk onto the Port Townsend Ferry and start our hike at Fort Casey State Park, traveling along the beach and upland to Ebey's Landing. This is a wonderful section of undeveloped Puget Sound beach with some of the best marine views around. The hike is about 9 miles round trip.

## Mt. Baker Ski: Ptarmigan Ridge/Winter Camp

Saturday, April 19—Sunday, April 20

Contact: Brian Steely, 360-297-3825



We meet at the upper lodge parking lot of Mt. Baker Ski Area. From there, we head up toward Artist Point and then traverse across the side of Table Mountain. The campsite is on a plateau just beyond the traverse. Bring headlamps for night skiing. In the morning, ski your heart out or sit back with your coffee and take in the awesome surroundings.

## Rampart Lake via Lake Lillian

Saturday, April 19-Sunday, April 20 (note date change)

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Ski mountaineering to Rampart Lake via Lake Lillian. This will be an ultra-light, overnight, ski-traverse trip.

## More Outings

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### Meet a Native: Botanizing Along the Duckabush River Trail

Sunday, April 20

Contact: Wendy McClure, 360-779-3820

This trail offers a wide variety of habitats with interesting native plants in the spring. Bring your hand-lens or magnifying glass and any field guides you may have.

### Trash Pick-up via Kayak

Tuesday, April 22

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than cleaning our planet up a bit.



### Bike the Foothills Trail

Saturday, April 26

Joan Edwards, 360-509-5297

30-mile-round-trip, paved railroad grade trail, virtually level. Starts at a Puyallup tulip farm, goes through farmlands to Orting, through Orting, then through forest and bird sanctuary, along the Carbon River to South Prairie. Nice restrooms, park benches, and latte stands along the way. Very nice facility. Will travel at an easy pace with lots of rest stops.

### Anvil Rock Bivy/Camp on Mt. Rainier

Saturday, April 26 - Sunday, April 27 or Saturday, May 3 - Sunday, May 4

Contact: John Knott, 360-710-1158

Bring your bivy sack (or small solo tent) and ski or snowshoe to Anvil Rock on Mt. Rainier for an overnight camp. The dates will be determined by the weather.

### Photographic Ramble to Murhut Falls

Sunday, April 27

Contact: Emily Grice, 206-842-7883

Photographic Ramble to Murhut Falls, the Duckabush River and the Ranger Hole Trail – not necessarily in that order. 7 miles altogether, 700 ft. gain. Camp nearby the night before or make it just a day trip.

### Into the Future....

#### Lakeshore Trail at Lake Chelan

Saturday, May 3-Sunday, May 4 (note date change)

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Enjoy hiking a trail with no road access. Kevin and Maria will catch the Lake Chelan ferry in Chelan on Saturday morning and get dropped off at a remote dock on the lake. We'll hike the Lakeshore Trail to Stehekin, where we'll catch the Sunday ferry back to Chelan. Note: This trip will require leaving town on Friday night.

### Mothers' Day Ski Mt. St. Helens in a Dress

Sunday, May 11

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

### Car Camping at Dosewallips State Park

Thursday, May 15-Sunday, May 18

Contact: Joe Weigel, 360-479-5116

### Climb Colonial Peak and Snowfield Peak

Saturday, May 24-Monday, May 26

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

### Climb Mt. St. Helens a Time or Two

Saturday, June 7 and Saturday, June 14 (note date change)

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Doug will be climbing Mount St. Helens on two dates. Call him to let him know if you'd like a slot or more on his permit.

### Climb Mt. Rainier

Thursday, June 19 - Sunday, June 22

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

Climb Mt. Rainier via the Emmons Glacier route. Exact dates will be determined by the weather.

### Backpack Seven Lakes Basin (High Divide)

Thursday, July 3— Monday, July 7

Contact: Joan Edwards, 360-509-5297

Starts at the parking lot just beyond Sol Duc Hot Springs. We'll travel 7.5 miles to Heart Lake on Thursday, 4.5 miles Friday to Lunch Lake. Day hikes and exploring from Lunch Lake on Saturday and Sunday; we'll hike out downhill 7 miles on Monday. This trip is dependant on snow-pack. Total elevation gain 4,000 feet.

### Ski Around Mt. Rainier

Friday, July 4 - Monday, July 7

Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Call Kevin for details of this trip.

### Climb Mt. Olympus

Thursday, July 17—Sunday, July 20

Contact: Gary Stringer, 206-780-6760

### Backpack LaCrosse Basin

One week: Late July/Early August

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

Visit Lake LaCrosse, Heart Lake, and Lake Ben in this backpack of the LaCrosse Basin.



## About Our Presenter

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Christopher Robertson holds an M.S. in Geology from the University of Washington and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley. He is currently V.P. of Shannon & Wilson, Inc. in Seattle, a position he has held since 1995. He has been working for nearly 10 years as a geotechnical engineer, though his resume also states there are “some days when he claims to be an engineering geologist.”

He leads a team of engineering geologists that specializes in evaluating steep slopes and structures. He gets to spend time outdoors, and even gets paid to go climbing at times!

Chris began climbing with his family even before he entered grade school. He’s made more than 500 successful ascents. Highlights from his climbing career include:

1960 — climbed Unicorn Peak at age 6, a low class-5 alpine rock climb

1970 — graduated from the Mountaineers Basic Course

1973 and 1974 — taught mountaineering for the Seattle Parks Department

From 1985 to the present, Chris has led many 6- to 12-day multi-peak traverses in the Washington Cascades, including the Ptarmigan traverse, Glacier Peak traverse via Rabbit Ears, Mystery Ridge traverse, Glacier Peak circumnavigation, and Klawatti, Isolation, and Snowfield traverse, to name but a few.

In 2007, he traveled to the Eastern Karakoram in India and climbed 7071-meter Chong Kumdan I.



*Photo: Chris Robertson*

In 2002, Chris led a 3-week traverse of the Waddington Range of the British Columbia Coast Range. During the traverse, he climbed the Northwest Peak of Mt. Waddington (4000 m), Mt. Munday and 12 other peaks. The expedition ended with seaplane pickup at sea level.

Other memorable climbs:

2005 — Northeast Buttress Mt. Goode (9,200 feet)

2004 — Index Traverse

Chris’ climbing goals:

- \* The 100 highest peaks in Washington State. Climbed 78 to date.
- \* Traverse from Dark Peak to Bonanza Peak, crossing the long west ridge.
- \* Keep climbing as least as long as Fred Beckey.

## Of Interest to Members:      **Blindsight.**

Documentary. Opens April 11 at the Harvard Exit Theatre, 807 East Roy, at Harvard, Seattle. Phone: 206- 781-5755

Set against the breathtaking backdrop of the Himalayas, *Blindsight* follows the gripping adventure of six Tibetan teenagers who set out to climb the 23,000-foot Lhakpa Ri on the north side of Mount Everest. A dangerous journey soon becomes a seemingly impossible challenge made all the more remarkable by the fact that the teenagers are blind. Believed by many Tibetans to be possessed by demons, the children are shunned by their parents, scorned by their villages and rejected by society. Rescued by Sabriye Tenberken, a blind educator and adventurer who established the first school for the blind in Lhasa, the students invite the famous blind mountain climber Erik Weiheymayer to visit their school after learning about his conquest of Everest. Erik arrives in Lhasa and inspires Sabriye and her students Kyila, Sonam Bhuntso, Tashi, Gyenshen, Dachung and Tenzin to let him lead them higher than they have ever been before. The resulting 3-week journey is more than any of them could have predicted.

## Photos from Recent Outings

Thanks to Erin Hennings, Dean Huffman, and Warren Bragg for providing the following photos:

### Elwha Hike



*Maria, Dean, and Erin*



*river view*



*Maria and Dean*

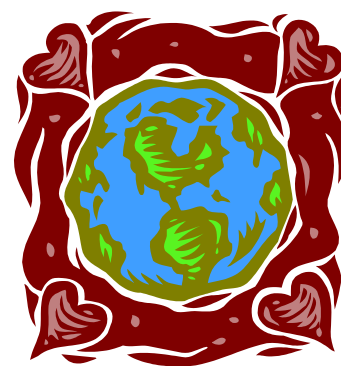


*Erin, Warren, and Maria*

### Lower Big Quilcene Trail



*Pictured: Jax, Pat, Karla, Charlie and Venita.  
Not pictured: Joe, Tashi, and Michael, who were  
waaay ahead, and Erin, who took the photo!*



**LOVE OUR EARTH !**

## Club News

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### Welcome to New Members

PWC welcomes new members: William and Jesse Frey of Pt. Orchard.

### Door Prize Winner

At the March meeting, Barney Bernhard won the door prize, which will be determined and given at the next meeting.

### Meeting Refreshments

Thanks to all who brought snacks to the March 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:greenthumb@telebyte.com)

### PWC Online...[www.pwckitsap.org](http://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

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### 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](mailto: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](mailto:penwicle@hotmail.com) or 360-598-3601.

## Officers & Staff

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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
	Joe Weigel.....	360-479-5116
Entertainment:	Erin Hennings.....	360-621-6961
Events:	Doug Savage.....	360-698-9774
Refreshments:	Sue DeArman .....	360-697-1352
Scrapbook:	Barbara Hager.....	360-692-5121
Membership Coordinator:	Venita Goodrich ..	360-698-9774
Website Editor:	Karla Piecuch .....	360-598-3601
Penwicle Editor:	Steve Dikowski.....	360-692-8386
Penwicle Proofreader:		

**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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