

JANUARY
2009

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.

Day Hiking the North Cascades

Monday, January 12, 7 pm

Presented by: Craig Romano

Craig grew up in rural New Hampshire where he fell in love with the natural world. A former Boy Scout, back country ranger in the White Mountain National Forest, and ski bum in Vermont, the outdoors is his calling! He has traveled extensively, from Alaska to Argentina, Sicily to South Korea, seeking wild and spectacular landscapes. He ranks Washington State, his home since 1989, among the most beautiful places on the planet and he has thoroughly hiked it, logging over 10,000 miles from Cape Flattery in the NW to Puffer Butte in the SE, and from Cape Disappointment in the SW to the Salmo-Priest Wilderness in the NE.

An avid hiker, runner, kayaker, and cyclist, Craig has written about these passions for over a dozen publications, including *Backpacker*, *Paddler*, *Northwest Magazine*, *Northwest Runner*, *AMC Outdoors*, *CityDog*, and *Northwest Outdoors*. Co-creator of *Hikeoftheweek.com*, he also writes park reports for Canada's *theweathernetwork.com*. Author of five books, among them *Day Hiking Olympic Peninsula* and *Day Hiking North Cascades*, and co-author of two others, Craig is currently working on a *Western Washington Winter Hikes Card Deck* (Mountaineers Books) scheduled for release in autumn 2009, and *Backpacking Washington*, scheduled for release spring 2011.

He holds several degrees: an AA in Forestry from White Mountains Community College (NH), and a BA in History and a Masters in Education from the University of Washington. He lives with his wife Heather and cat Giuseppe in Skagit County, close to the North Cascades and the San Juan Islands.

Copies of *Day Hiking North Cascades* and *Day Hiking Olympic Peninsula* will be available for purchase at the PWC meeting for \$15 each (cash or check only).

Photo: Gothic Basin, courtesy of Craig Romano (see page 5 for more photos)



Monthly

MAP: Monthly Activity Planning

Thursday, January 8, 7 pm

Contact: Joe & Kathy Weigel, 360-479-5116

Discuss club business and help schedule outings at Joe & Kathy's home in Bremerton.

January Potluck

Friday, January 30, 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.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Outing / Meeting</u>	<u>Contact</u>
12/31-1/1	New Year's Eve in Port Townsend	Jon & Sue DeArman, 360-697-1352
1/1	Fort Worden Hike	Venita Goodrich, 360-471-0522
1/4	Hike the Lillian River Trail	Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648
Wednesdays	Good Time Ski Bus	Jack Snead, 360-373-3257
1/8	MAP Meeting, 7 pm	Joe & Kathy Weigel, 360-479-5116
1/10	MTTA Avalanche Safety Training	Bob Brown, mttta@skimtta.com
1/11	Ski at Mount Rainier	Jon DeArman, 360-697-1352
1/12	General Meeting, 7 pm	Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648
1/16-19	Winter Tent Camping in Stehekin	Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429
1/17-19	Winter Sports in Winthrop	Emily Grice, 206-842-7883
1/24	Snowshoe at Stevens Pass/Smith Brook Road	Shelley Fleming, 360-779-2275, richelle.fleming@gmail.com
1/25	Hike the South Fork Skokomish River	Doug Savage & Venita Goodrich, 360-698-9774
1/30	January Potluck	Tom Leurquin, 206-842-5906
1/31-2/1	Ski/Snowshoe to Copper Creek Hut	Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

J	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	F	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.

The WEBSITE: A Source for Outings

Remember that trips can be listed on the website under Last Minute Outings. If you don't see something that interests you in the newsletter, check the website for additional trips. Or, if you have an outing you are doing that was planned after the deadline, use the website to post the information. This can be done in three ways: you can fill out the form online, or you can call or email the info directly to Venita.

New Year's Eve in Port Townsend

Wednesday, December 31 - Thursday, January 1
Contact: Jon & Sue DeArman, 360-697-1352

Jon & Sue will be car camping at Fort Worden State Park on New Year's Eve. We will walk the Fort in the evening to watch the sunset. Then drink & dine the night away in Port Townsend; followed by a nightcap of hot toddies around the campfire. Next morning will include a beach hike with Venita and other club members at a reasonable hour.

Fort Worden Hike

Thursday, January 1
Contact: Venita Goodrich, 360-471-0522

Enjoy a New Year's Day beach hike at historic Fort Worden with Venita, Jon and Sue.

Hike the Lillian River Trail

Sunday, January 4
Contact: Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

This hike starts at Whiskey Bend, southwest of Port Angeles, in lush forest, and follows the Elwha River for 4.1 miles. We will then turn east, up the Lillian River Trail for 3.1 miles, into a dry forest, with madrona and manzanita complementing the evergreens. The total distance is 14.4 miles with 700 feet of elevation gain, but you can do as much or as little as you wish.

Good Time Ski Bus

Wednesdays starting January 7
Contact: Jack Snead, 360-373-3257

Catch the bus to Crystal Mountain for eight weeks. Cost is \$180. Riding the bus qualifies you for a discounted group lift ticket (\$52 for an adult ticket). If you are interested in taking the bus but don't want to commit to eight weeks, call Jack to get on the standby list as space allows.

MTTA Avalanche Safety Training

Saturday, January 10
Contact: Bob Brown, mttat@skimtta.com

MTTA is opening their Avalanche Safety Training to interested skiers and snowshoers. The class is taught by fellow PWCer and Mountaineer Instructor Mike Raymond. The morning will be spent in the classroom and the afternoon will be spent in the field.

Ski at Mount Rainier

Sunday, January 11
Contact: Jon & Sue DeArman, 360-697-1352

Enjoy a low intermediate level snowshoe and cross-country ski trip to Reflection Lakes. It's an easy 1.2-mile trek below Mazama Ridge to the first of two snow-covered lakes, where lunch and hot toddies will be enjoyed. There are beautiful views of the Tatoosh Range, so bring your camera. We will already be up at Rainier so call by Thursday to confirm the meeting place.

Winter Tent Camping in Stehekin

Friday, January 16 - Monday, January 19 (*note date change*)
Contact: Kevin Koski, 360-373-7429

Catch the ferry across Lake Chelan to Stehekin and do some winter camping.

Winter Sports in Winthrop

Saturday, January 17 - Monday, January 19
Contact: Emily Grice, 206-842-7883

Cross-country ski, snowshoe and/or downhill ski the powdery snow of eastern Washington. Make your own lodging reservations early, and contact Emily so club activities can be coordinated.

Snowshoe at Stevens Pass/Smith Brook Road

Saturday, January 24
Contact: Shelley Fleming, 360-779-2275,
richelle.fleming@gmail.com

This moderate trip follows the route of the snow-covered Smith Brook Road, located several miles east of Stevens Pass. The route in the alpine forest eventually leads to the Lake Valhalla Trail and a junction with the Pacific Crest Trail. The hike will be 4-6 miles in length, depending on the group's interest. We will meet in Kingston and carpool across on the ferry.

Outings

Hike the South Fork Skokomish Trail

Sunday, January 25

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

Enjoy a scenic, low elevation hike along the Skoke.

Ski/Snowshoe to Copper Creek Hut

Saturday, January 31 - Sunday, February 1

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Cross-country ski or snowshoe to Copper Creek Hut in the MTTA trail system. Ski or snowshoe in on Saturday, then spend the night in a heated cabin before heading home Sunday. Overnight slots are limited (see page 6 for information about the lottery). If you don't get an overnight space in the hut, don't fret—you are welcome to winter camp outside, or just come up for the day.

WINTERFEST 2009

Friday, February 13 - Monday, February 16

Contact: Greg Myrick, 360-649-1648

WINTERFEST will be held at the Stevens Pass Mountaineers Cabin, located at the 4061-foot summit of Stevens Pass. The cabin 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, located directly across the road from lodge and Lantam Lakes above Mill Valley
- ◆ BC ski / Snowshoe miles of Forest Service trails in the immediate area (Sno-Park pass required at some trailheads)
- ◆ Snowshoe PCT located on ridge above Cabin

Greg has already reserved lodging, so contact Greg to reserve your spot. Cost is \$65 and includes breakfasts and dinners.

Ski at Whitefish Mountain Resort

Tuesday, March 3 - Sunday, March 8

Contact: Pat Gleason, email: dpgleason@comcast.net

Enjoy four days of skiing at Whitefish Mountain Resort (formerly Big Mountain Resort), three nights in loft suites at the luxurious, slope-side Kandahar Lodge, and two nights on Amtrak. Side trips to nearby Glacier National Park or the Flathead Lake XC trail system can also be arranged.

Ski/Snowshoe to High Hut

Saturday, March 7 - Sunday, March 8

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Cross-country ski or snowshoe to High Hut in the MTTA trail system. Ski or snowshoe in on Saturday, then spend the night in a heated cabin before heading home Sunday. Overnight slots are limited (see page 6 for info about the lottery). If you don't get an overnight space in the hut, don't fret—you are welcome to winter camp outside, or just come up for the day.

Ski/Snowshoe to High Hut

Saturday, March 21 - Sunday, March 22

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Cross-country ski or snowshoe to High Hut in the MTTA trail system. Ski or snowshoe in on Saturday, then spend the night in a heated cabin before heading home Sunday. Overnight slots are limited (see page 6 for information about the lottery). If you don't get an overnight space in the hut, don't fret—you are welcome to winter camp outside, or just come up for the day.

Ski the Wolf Creek Trail

Saturday, March 28

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Enjoy an intermediate level cross-country ski from the Hurricane Ridge Road down to Whiskey Bend Trailhead on the Elwha River.

Southern Utah Canyonlands Day Hike/ Backpack Trip

Late April - first week of May

Contact: David Boyde, 360-692-9325, theboyde@aol.com.

Come and spend some time exploring southern Utah's Canyon Country. Spend two days day hiking in Arches National Park, three days backpacking in Canyonlands National Park and three days day hiking in Bryce Canyon National Park. The fourth leg of the trip will be either three days backpacking down Buckskin Gulch and up the Paria River, three days backpacking in Grand Staircase - Escalante National Monument (three options available), or three days at Zion National Park (one day of day hiking and two days backpacking). The mileage will be about 55 miles day hiking and 50 backpacking over the 14-day trip (including travel time). Group size is limited to 7-12, depending on location choices. Trip is still in planning stages and will be finalized in December with permit applications in January 2009.

Skyline Trail/Hayes River

Late August (*exact date TBA*)

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

This is about an eight-day hike up the Skyline Trail, down to Low Divide, with a side trip to Martins Park, down the Elwha River to Hayes River, up Hayes River to Hayden Pass, and out the West Fork of the Dosewallips River. This hike is about 56-60 miles, not counting side trips. We may do some easy climbs in Seattle Park.

Climb Aconcagua: the Tallest Peak in the Americas

December (*note date change, exact date TBA*)

Contact: Doug Savage, 360-698-9774

Join Doug on his long-awaited trip to climb the Stone Sentinel, Aconcagua, at 22,841 feet, in the Andes. This is a non-technical climb, but very demanding.

Photos



Eulogy to Mike Urich
Submitted by David Cossa

The following eulogy is carved into a large entrance sign for the Pacific Crest Trail hut:

The mountain gods from seats on high
Rejoiced to see Mike Urich die
And at his death gave this decree
"To all who pass here know that we
Entrust to Big Mike Urich's hands
These camps, these trails, these forest lands
To rule, protect, to love and scan
Well as he did while mortal man
And deal out sentence stem and just
On those that violate his trust"
Stranger beware, leave not a fire
Foul not Mike's camp, rouse not his ire!

Top left: Goat Peak, Mount Baker Wilderness; below: tarn near Eagle Lakes, Sawtooth Ridge. Photos courtesy of Craig Romano. See cover page to learn more about Craig.



Lottery for Overnights at MTTA Huts

On November 15, 17 PWC members attended the Annual MTTA (Mount Tahoma Trails Association) Gala at REI in Seattle. The Gala is the first chance to get reservations for the MTTA ski huts for the upcoming season. It is so popular that all of the Saturday overnights get booked at the Gala. The PWC representatives earned reservations for three weekends: January 31 - February 1 at Copper Creek Hut, March 7-8 at High Hut, and March 21-22 at High Hut. The drawing for overnight reservations at the huts will be held at the January General Meeting on Monday, January 12. If you are interested in staying in the hut (see pages 3 and 4 for descriptions of the outings), contact Doug Savage at 360-698-9774 to put your name in the drawing. PWC members who attended the MTTA Gala will be given first priority. Remaining spaces will be filled by the drawing. If you are unable to attend the January General Meeting, make sure your name is on the list in advance. For more information about MTTA, the trails and the huts, go to www.skimtta.com

Thanks to the following PWCers for attending the Gala and securing reservations!

Doug Savage
Venita Goodrich
Jon DeArman
Beth Harter
Brian Steely
Cris Craig

Alice Savage
Gary Goodwin
Barbara Hager
John Hager
Rod Henderson
Vern Brown

Bethany Cecere
Pam Sargent
Greg Myrick
Erin Hennings
Emily Grice

Why You Should Never, Ever Litter

Submitted by David Cossa

Once upon a time, I was helping the Olympic College mountaineering class on a rock climb of Guye Peak. On the way back down, we set up a rappel point. These places usually turn into bottlenecks for groups so most of the students kicked back and awaited their turn to rappel. One woman was a smoker and as she finished her cigarette, she crushed the butt out, left it on a rock, stood up and got ready to descend. About 10 feet into her rappel, she leaned too far forward towards the cliff that her feet were on. As she neared a near standing vertical position, instead of the desired 45 degree angle, her feet slipped out from under her. Before she had time to react, her head was shoved forward by her weight into the cliff, splitting her lip. Instant karma! Luckily she didn't let go of the rope.

A long, long time ago, in an area not so far away, I was on a climb of Mount Stuart. We had lunch on the summit and one guy had brought a cantaloupe. Despite our objections, he heaved the rinds off the summit, sneering that they were biodegradable. On the way down, we had a tricky move to enter a steep gully that required the use of handholds. We all passed safely, testing the handholds as we went. Except, that is, for the rind tosser. As he entered the couloir, he neglected to test his handhold. It immediately came loose, he lost his balance, and we watched him fall 10 feet, doing a complete somersault in the process. Luckily, he landed on his pack, but that didn't keep him from developing a knot the size of a football on one of his bruised thighs. Almost instant karma.

As I was preparing at the Tanner Trailhead to descend into the Grand Canyon, a hiker came out looking for help for his wife who had twisted her ankle about a mile down the trail, ruining the start of a multi-day trip for them. They were taking a break under a shady overhang, got up to go on, and she simply slipped and fell on the trail. As he lit up a cigarette, he went to his car and said he was going for help, and could I check on his wife as I went down. I said sure. About a half mile in, I came upon her with four other hikers helping her to hike out using a pair of walking sticks and their support. Since the trailhead was so close and I knew more help was on the way, I decided to continue on down after they said my help wasn't really needed. About another half mile in I came upon the obvious, shady, and only overhang around, where the pair had taken a break and, lo and behold, there were two cigarette butts crushed out on a rock. Uh hmm...

I rest my case!

Club News

Door Prize Winner At the December meeting, Kathy Weigel won the door prize, an MSR cooking pot.

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.

Jon's Minute

At the December meeting, Jon talked about the care and maintenance of the metal edges of your skis. Jon also showed off a pair of women's size 7 to 8 Scarpa telemark ski boots that he picked up at a thrift shop for \$12. If you are interested in buying these boots, contact Jon.

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, Barney Bernhard, at 360-479-3679.

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 Erin Hennings at penwicle@hotmail.com or 360-621-6961. 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? Erin Hennings 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 Erin 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 Erin Hennings at penwicle@hotmail.com or 360-621-6961.

Officers & Staff

President:	Greg Myrick	360-649-1648
Vice President:	Erin Hennings	360-621-6961
Secretary:	Barney Bernhard..	360-479-3679
Treasurer:	Jill Hawes	360-275-5402
Board of Directors:	Dale Boyle	360-792-1714
	Shelley Fleming ...	360-779-2275
	Steve Osburn	360-697-5982
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:	Erin Hennings	360-621-6961
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.

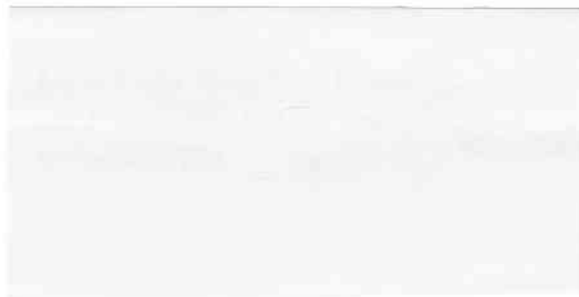
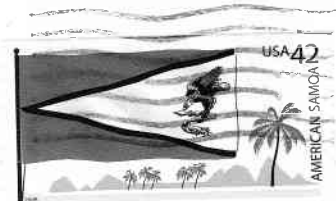
☐ Check here if you do NOT wish any information to be included in the list distributed to members.



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