

The Peninsula Wilderness Club meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm at the VFW Hall at 9981 Central Valley Rd, Bremerton, WA. The public is cordially invited.

The PWC Presents: A Camino Less Trod - the Camino del Norte to Santiago by Jim McKeever

Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
VFW Post 4992
9981 Central Valley Road
Bremerton, WA 98311

From August 30 to October 12, 2022, Jim walked along the north coast of Spain on the Camino del Norte, from Hondarribia on the French border to Santiago de Compostela, with friends. He did a detour to Oviedo to see that historic city, and ended up covering 523 miles over 38 walking days, averaging 13-3/4 miles a day.

This presentation will review what you need to know if you want to walk this wonderful Camino, and show you the incredible beauty and variety of this trail that leads you through the Basque country, Cantabria, Asturias and Galicia, weaving between the coast and the mountains.



Please RSVP, either by contacting the host or using the electronic calendar, so the host knows how many people to expect.

MAP: Monthly Activity Planning Meeting

Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
 Host: Kanita Sellers
 Phone: 757-235-0594
 Help schedule PWC events and outings, and discuss club business. All are invited. BYOB and snacks to share are always welcome.

Monthly Potluck

Friday, January 26, 2024, 5:30 – 8:00 pm (**Note time change**)
 Host: Emily Grice at Silver City Taproom, Bremerton
 Phone: 206-669-0817; E-mail: emilykgrice@gmail.com
 Potlucks are a great way to meet others and learn more about the club. Host provides dessert; guests bring an entrée or side dish and drinks to share.

Events and Activities

Visit the PWC calendar at <http://www.pwckitsap.org/events-calendar/> for activities, trips, and updates. Please use the RSVP feature on the calendar if interested in a trip.

	Mt. Walker (every Tuesday morning)	Doug Savage	360-994-0003	thehiker@comcast.net
	Weekly Hike (every Wednesday)	Emily Grice	206-669-0817	emilykgrice@gmail.com
1/26/2024	PWC Potluck Silver City Taproom (5:30 – 8:00) See event calendar for further details	Emily Grice	206-669-0817	emilykgrice@gmail.com
1/27/2024	Mailbox Peak	Stevo Pavkovic	360-813-2743	stevoandlisa@gmail.com
1/27/2024	Snowshoe at Paradise Mt Rainier (Rescheduled)	Doug Savage	360-994-0003	thehiker@comcast.net
2/3/2024	Ski or snowshoe: MTTA Yurt	Doug Savage	360-994-0003	thehiker@comcast.net
2/10/2024	Snowshoe to Hurricane Hill	Doug Savage	360-994-0003	thehiker@comcast.net
2/14/2024	MAP Meeting	Kanita Sellers	757-235-0594	
2/17/2024	Ski or snowshoe: MTTA Copper Creek Hut	Doug Savage	360-994-0003	thehiker@comcast.net
2/23/2024	Lower Big Quilcene River Trail	Stevo Pavkovic	360-813-2743	stevoandlisa@gmail.com
2/23/2024	Monthly Potluck	John and Anna Marine Jurgens	360-876-3554	annamarieljurgens@msn.com
2/25/2024	Hike to Lake Angeles	Doug Savage	360-994-0003	thehiker@comcast.net
2/29/2024	Leap Day Happy Hike	Emily Grice	206-669-0817	emilykgrice@gmail.com

About PWC Activities and Outings:

- PWC outings and other activities are open to everyone. If you enjoy our club and what we do, please become a member! For \$25 a year, your membership helps pay the bills and keeps the club moving forward.
- As a courtesy to the sponsor of the outing you are joining, please call with cancellations or requests at least two days in advance for single-day outings, and as soon as possible for overnight outings. This allows the sponsor time to make alternate plans should a trip need to be canceled or changed for any reason.
- Please leave pets at home unless the trip is specifically listed as welcoming them.
- **Carpool and Ride Sharing.** We strongly encourage carpooling and ridesharing to reduce impact to trailheads, minimize our environmental footprint, and reduce costs. Please be considerate of your drivers, including situations when you ride with different drivers in each direction. The amount you contribute to your driver should reflect the distance driven, the cost of gas, tolls, and parking fees.
- **Safety First!** For liability reasons, trip sponsors should not be considered instructors or leaders. If you are unsure of your ability to participate in an activity, discuss the trip thoroughly with the sponsor, but the responsibility for your safety is yours. Each participant is responsible for their own comfort, safety and route finding. ***Always carry the 10 essentials!***

Please ensure that you update the events calendar on the PWC website within one week after the MAP Meeting.

Thank you.

MTTA Information:

All of the MTTA huts are full, but people ALWAYS drop out at the last minute. If you'd like to be added to the wait list, please contact Doug Savage at (360) 994-0003.

Copper Creek: February 17 – 18.

High Hut: March 16 – 17 and March 23 – 24.

Tony and Bob's Sunshine planned trips for 2024:

Canyonlands NP UT: Group site 21 - 28 Apr

Bell Bay FS campground ID: Group site 14 Jun - 17 Jun

Calado RV park ID: 18 - 20 Jun

Lava Lakes FS campground OR: 20 - 27 Jul

Upper Payette Lake State Park Group site ID: AUG date TBD

Hill City (rent VRBO home) (10 people) SD: SEP date TBD

Steamboat Rock/Curlew Lake/Lincoln Rock State Park WA: Oct date TBD

For further information, call Tony (360) 328-8821 or Bob (253) 719-3098.

MRTC Falls View Trail: The crew removed a couple of trees across the trail and patched up a hole.



Photos by John Jurgens



Note: Please feel free to send trip photos, trip reports, or any other suggestions/changes that you would like to see in the Penwicle to Margaret Poshusta (Marg8733@comcast.net) so that they may be included in the newsletter. Thank you.

Heather Park: 10 miles roundtrip, elevation gain 3,940 ft. Climb and climb to a high alpine parkland. Along the way, take in the gorgeous views, massive trees, and fluffy mosses signature to the Hurricane Ridge area of Olympic National Park. (wta.org)



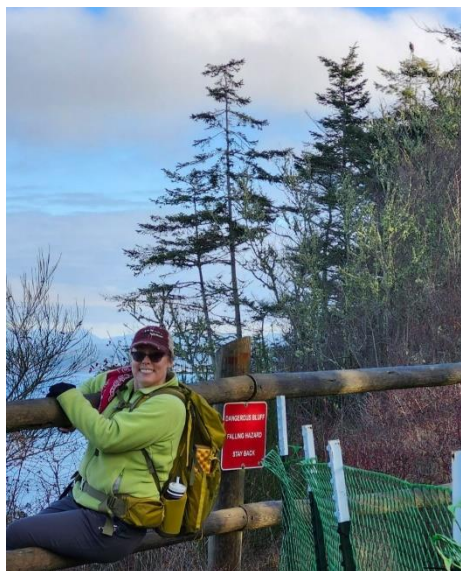
Photos by Robyn Denson and Stevo Pavkovic

Green Mountain Annual Winter Solstice hike:



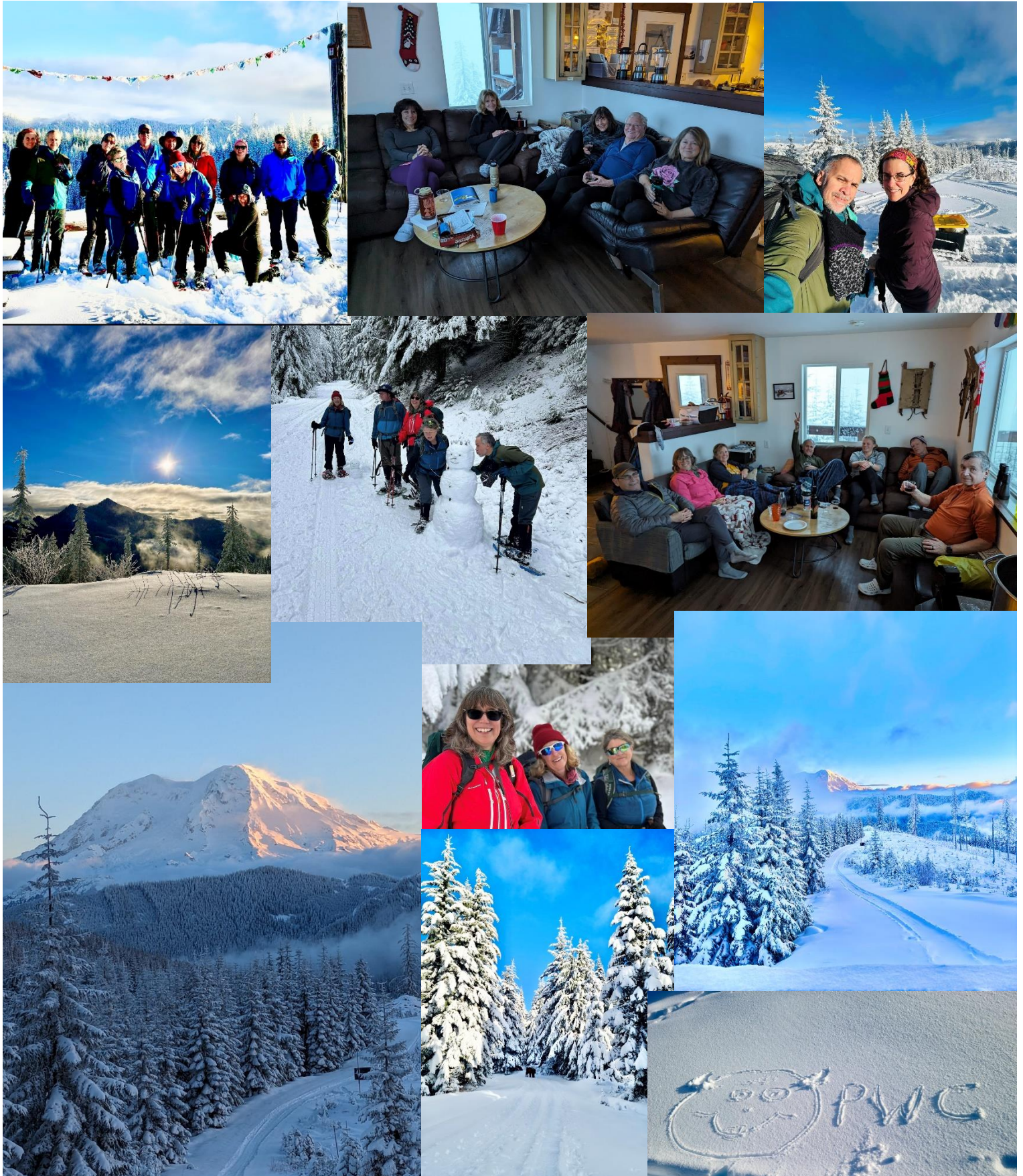
Photos by Yolanda Kwek and Jay Thompson

Fort Worden New Year's Day: On the shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, you can walk a fine sandy beach between high bluffs and two access points to reach the Point Wilson Lighthouse at Fort Worden State Park. In 1792 when Captain Vancouver and his crew explored Discovery Bay in a small boat, it was a foggy morning. He named Point Wilson for a British friend, and then when the sun came out, he saw the large beautiful bay around it and named it for another friend, a British marquis named Townsend. Views are wonderful of Mt. Baker, Vancouver Island, the San Juan Islands, and the Cascades behind them. (wta.org)



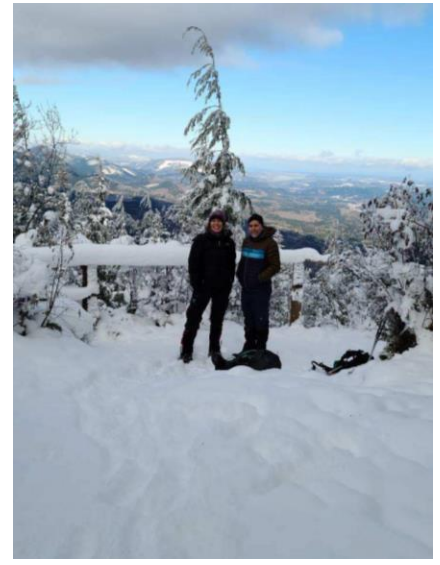
Photos by Erin Hennings, Stevo Pavkovic, Steve Osburn, Margaret Poshusta, and Dorothy Shoecraft

Bruni's Snow Bowl Hut: Bruni's Snow Bowl Hut rests atop a ridge at 4,250 feet, with a marvelous view of Mount Rainier, Mt. Adams, and Mt. St. Helens. The hut is roomy and comfortable, with most of the comforts of home in the backcountry. The trek to Bruni's is 4.0 miles of sustained uphill hiking. This trek can be quite challenging and you should be in good hiking condition. (skimtta.org)



Photos by Robyn Denson, Kristy Kane, and Stevo Pavkovic

Mount Walker:



Photos by Stevo Pavkovic

Illahee Preserve:



Photo by Lynn Howat

NOTICES:

Kanita Sellers has recently offered to take over the role of Program Coordinator. She is replacing Jay Thompson, who is stepping away from the position after many years. If you have any ideas or points of contact for possible guest speakers for the club, please contact Kanita by calling or texting 757-235-0594 or e-mailing @ ksellers04@gmail.com

Goodies are always accepted for the monthly general meeting. You can show off your baking skills or stop at the grocery store; either is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Snowshoeing 101 (wta.org)

PLANNING:

Where to go.

- Choose your destinations wisely. Some popular summer hiking routes can be avalanche hotspots in winter and should only be visited with plenty of advance research, preparation, and gear.
- Consider visiting a Sno-Park. Sno-Parks are parking lots that are cleared and maintained by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources during the winter. They are great jumping-off points for snowshoe outings.
- Or you can always start out with a guided snowshoe trip, which are offered by several different organizations throughout the state.

Check the conditions.

- Once you find a destination, make sure it is accessible and safe. Check with the Northwest Avalanche Center (NWAC) to see if any warnings are in effect. Check the roads and the weather, as well as trip reports from people who were just there.

Safety.

- Finally, always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return and call them when you get home.

GEAR:

Aside from the obvious addition of snowshoes, going on a snowshoe trek requires a little extra gear than a normal hike.

Clothing.

- Lightweight ski pants, rain pants with long underwear, snowboarding pants lined with fleece, or regular trekking pants will work well. Snow in Western Washington is quite wet, so something water-resistant is a good idea.
- Layer your upper half with a quick-dry piece close to your body, then a fleece jacket that can be unzipped for ventilation. It's OK to be a little cold when you start because you will warm up quickly. On the other hand, if you'll be out with kids, you'll want to bundle everyone up; their pace is often slower and you won't work up a sweat quite as quickly.
- Don't let winter stop you from getting outdoors, sometimes you just need to breathe some alpine air and play in the snow.

Footwear.

- You'll want warm, waterproof boots. If your hiking boots come with materials like Gore-tex, they will be just fine. If you're with kids, waterproof snow boots or even rubber boots are OK for short outings.

EQUIPMENT:

Before you invest in gear for yourself or growing kids, consider renting gear if you want to check out the different types.

Most snowshoes now have aluminum frames with a decking material that will keep you on top of the snow. Teeth or cleats on the bottom are essential for the icy, hard-packed snow of Western Washington. Most shoes have straps that secure your boot to the shoe. Some others offer a binding mechanism similar to ski boots.

Just like for hiking, poles can come in handy, but they aren't essential on beginner trails.

THE TEN ESSENTIALS:

Snowshoeing is hiking on the snow, so you'll want to carry the same Ten Essentials that you take hiking. The Ten Essentials include a topographic map and compass, hydration, extra food, extra clothing, a fire starter, a first-aid kit, a pocket knife, a flashlight, sun protection and an emergency shelter.

Some of these are extra important for winter hiking and snowshoeing:

- **Adequate extra clothing:** Carry plenty of layers made of materials such as wool or polypropylene that wick sweat and moisture away from your body.
- **Headlamp or flashlight (and extra batteries):** These are especially important in the winter, since days are short and night comes quickly.
- **Plenty of extra food:** Snowshoeing is strenuous exercise and you burn a lot of calories, so bring along plenty of extra food and keep your energy level high.
- **Plenty of water:** Keep hydrated by drinking often.
- **Emergency shelter and/or sleeping bag:** Seriously consider carrying these in case you have to spend a night out there.

A few extra items to put in the winter backpack include:

- **Portable shovel:** A critically important winter survival tool, which will assist you in digging snow caves in which you can survive a cold night.
- **Avalanche beacon:** In avalanche country, consider carrying an avalanche beacon. And know how to use it properly.

Snowshoeing requires much more energy than hiking, so keep your mileage goals lower than you usually do, and turn around when conditions are beyond your skills or your energy level is low.

Washington State abounds with snowshoe and cross-country skiing opportunities, and snowshoeing is fast becoming a favorite winter recreational activity for many Washington hikers.

AVOIDING HAZARDS:

Learning basic avalanche awareness skills can also help you identify risky places or conditions. The Northwest Avalanche Center is a great starting place.

Knowing how to navigate is also key. Snow tends to make the landscape look uniform and obscure landmarks. It's not a good idea to follow tracks if you don't know where they lead. Just because someone went before you, it doesn't mean they chose a safe route.

SNOWSHOEING WITH A DOG:

If you're planning on taking your pup with you, there's a little extra prep you'll want to do. Many dogs love the snow, but if *you're* just learning, it might be a good idea to leave your pup at home the first few times out.

Consider whether the location and weather are appropriate for your pet, and if they can handle the outing. Some dogs do better in snow than others. Your pup may need special clothing and equipment to keep them safe and healthy on a winter snowshoe adventure.

Prepare for other people. Snowshoeing trails are popular and often have other hikers. How does your dog act around other dogs, people and wildlife?

Have doggie first-aid at hand. In addition to packing out your pup's poop, be sure you are prepared to deal with injuries such as cut pads and hypothermia.

Finally, if you do plan to snowshoe with a dog, make sure dogs are allowed on the trail where you plan to go. Dogs are prohibited on trails in national parks and, for safety reasons, on groomed trails in state Sno-Parks because dog paws punch holes in the trails. For everyone's safety (including your pup), it's almost always a good idea to keep your dog leashed.

How to safely share the trail

Planning to hike or snowshoe on a cross-country ski trail? Think again — follow these steps to share the snow safely.



WHEN SNOWSHOEING/HIKING:

- Stay off groomed cross-country/Nordic trails.
- Stay off a skin track set by backcountry skiers and splitboarders.
- Yield to uphill travelers. They have the same right of way as on hiking trails.

WHEN SKIING:

- ◆ Always keep skier-right while on the classic track.
- ◆ Remain right of middle while on the skate track.
- ◆ If you need to stop, move off the trail and make room for others to pass by you.
- ◆ Yield to downhill ski traffic.

Sources: Washington Trails Association, REI

MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES

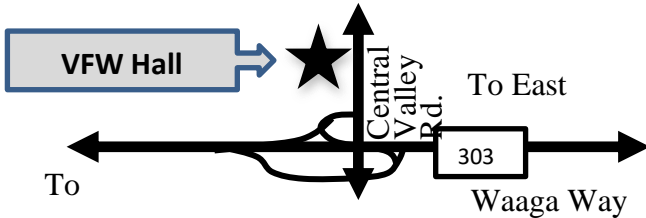
Club News

PWC Online... <http://www.pwckitsap.org/>

Go to the website to find upcoming trips, trip reports, photos, a discussion forum, and more!

PWC General Meeting

The PWC General Meeting is held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the VFW Hall at 9981 Central Valley Road in Bremerton WA.



WELCOME FRIENDS!!! If you are a guest or new member, please introduce yourself and ask for help, or look for someone who can answer questions and point out members who share your interests. However, to really get to know us – come to a potluck or go on an outing with us!

Sponsor an Outing!

If you are a club member and interested in leading an outing, let us know about it so we can post it! Even if you list your trip in other forums, including it as a PWC event helps connect people and groups, and helps the club stay active. To sponsor an outing, come to a MAP meeting to discuss your trip, or fill out the form on our website, or email or call the info to our Calendar Editor, Christine Plepys, at c_plepys@yahoo.com and 859-240-2704 or Emily Grice at emilykgrice@gmail.com and 206-669-0817, or to our Webmaster, Jay Thompson, at pwadmin@pwckitsap.org and 360-307-0037.

We Need Your House!

The club's Monthly Activities Planning (MAP) meetings and potluck dinners are held at a member's home. If you can handle a small home invasion, please contact the Calendar Editor, Emily Grice at emilykgrice@gmail.com or 206-669-0817.

PENWICLE Submissions

Email your PENWICLE submission by the deadline to ensure it is included in the next issue. *Please send calendar entries in advance (see "Sponsor an Outing!" on this page),* and for other PENWICLE submissions, send an email to the Webmaster, Jay Thompson, at pwadmin@pwckitsap.org

Your Trip Photos Wanted!

Do you have some great PWC trip pictures you'd like to share? Each month we need your photos to share during the PWC General Meeting slide show and in the PENWICLE. Contact Jay Thompson (jaythom1@hotmail.com), our Dropbox manager, to find out how!

Club Business

Email, Address or Phone Number Changes

Send changes to the PWC Treasurer, Marti Howard at:

Peninsula Wilderness Club
P.O. Box 323
Bremerton, WA 98337-0070

Joining/Renewing your Membership

To join or renew, please see the form on the back of this newsletter. PWC members receive a discount on select merchandise or services at the following businesses (check with vendor for details):

- Ajax Café, Port Hadlock, <http://www.ajaxcafe.com/>
- Back of Beyond, Bainbridge Is., <http://www.tothebackofbeyond.com>
- Commander's Beach House Bed and Breakfast, Port Townsend <http://www.commandersbeachhouse.com/>
- Wilderness and The Gear Stash, Bainbridge Island <http://wildernessoutdoorstore.com>
- Olympic Outdoor Center, Port Gamble <http://www.olympicoutdoorcenter.com/>
- Poulsbo Running, Poulsbo, <http://www.poulsborunning.com>
- The Quick Fix, Port Orchard, cmountaindave@aol.com and 360-871-5577

PWC Officers and Staff

Co-Presidents.....	Erin Hennings.....	360-621-6961
	Stevo Pavkovic.....	360-813-2743
	Cathie Strand.....	714-328-6697
Vice President.....	Tony Abruzzo.....	360-871-5754
Secretary.....	Megan Thompson.....	360-473-6126
Treasurer.....	Marti Howard.....	360-620-2991
President Emeritus.....	Doug Savage.....	360-994-0003
Members at Large.....	Barbara Ablitt.....	253-225-9350
	Truett DuPuis.....	253-358-0242
	Amanda Piesik.....	701-770-2698
Program Coordinator.....	Kanita Sellers.....	757-235-0594
Annual Picnic.....	Tony Abruzzo.....	360-871-5754
Refreshments.....	Tina Fox.....	360-649-0424
	Sandy Bochonok.....	360-620-7777
Membership Database.....	Marti Howard.....	360-620-2991
Webmaster.....	Jay Thompson.....	360-307-0037
Calendar Editor.....	Christine Plepys.....	859-240-2704
Dropbox Manager.....	Jay Thompson.....	360-307-0037
PWC Historian.....	Margaret Poshusta.....	360-692-0126
PENWICLE Editor.....	Margaret Poshusta.....	360-692-0126



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

Dues are \$25 per household per year. Bring dues to a PWC General meeting, or 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: _____

For new members – how did you hear about us? _____

(Please print clearly)

NOTE: New members will receive the PENWICLE newsletter by email, or can download a copy via the PWC website.

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

JUNE 2020 - Time Dated Material
Reproduced Using Recycled Paper

