



March 1981

P.O. Box 4214; Wycoff Sta.; Bremerton, Wa.

WELCOME! Well... we finally got our logo. After many long months of coaxing, cajoling and impelling members, we were able to vote on a fair number of entries at January's meeting. The winner of the infamous logo contest--the mother of the creation stage left-- is Diane Newman. Congratulations!

Trips

7-8 March. Mt. Hood in Oregon. The standard climb of Mt. Hood from Timberline Lodge is planned for this weekend. For details call Jorgen at 275-2020.

16 March. PWC Workshop. Monday evening at 8:00 a "brainstorming" session is planned at Nancy Dohse's house. The ideas and opinions battled around at these workshops are oftentimes instrumental in determining the direction of the club. The sessions are very informal. They provide an opportunity for people to give feedback and input that might not be feasible at general meetings. They give new members a chance to get involved. Some of the concerns that will be discussed this evening will be a Spring club function, ways in which to utilize the logo, future entertainment programs, focuses for the newsletter, and ideas for activities. All interested club members are encouraged to attend. For directions, call Nancy at 692-4679 or Steve at 373-3737.

17 March. The Kitsap American Red Cross is offering Mountaineering oriented First Aid classes (MOFA) beginning the 17th of March. For details, contact Jorgen at 275-2020.

21 March. Build an igloo at Paradise! Here is an outing the entire family can enjoy. Come up to Paradise for the day--help build an igloo, ski, ...generally have fun! For details, call Ted at 857-2206.

March Entertainment

The 9 March meeting of the Peninsula Wilderness Club will convene at 7:30 P.M. in Room Art 103 at Olympic College. Slated for entertainment this month will be the Steve Marts film, "Wings to the Wind". Steve Marts (of "Fairweather" fame) filmed the 1976 Victoria to Maui sailboat race. From all reviews this should be an exciting film! Also scheduled for this evening is a slide presentation of the same race by a local participant of the race. Be sure to be there!

4 April. Easy day hike. A relaxed hike is planned for this Saturday somewhere in the Hurricane Ridge area. A good hike to get back into the swing of things for summer hiking. If interested contact Nancy at 692-4679.

25-26 April. A bike trip in the San Juan Islands. Accomodations should be available for both campers and those wishing to enjoy the quaint guest houses on the islands. A "sag wagon" will be available to carry supplies, tools, exhausted cyclists, etc. so the only equipment required is a bike and a set of willing legs. Interested members can call Steve at 479-3892.

9-10 May. A guided white-water trip in the Cascades. No experience or special equipment is necessary and the relaxing paddle on calm waters coupled with the thrill of the rapids can be enjoyed by all. Inter-

Trips continued...

ested members can call Steve at 479-3892 as soon as possible in order to obtain a group discount.

31 May. This Sunday our yearly trek up to Muir is planned with the main purpose of skiing down on downhill or x-c equipment. ("Postholers" are also welcome!) If interested, call Sussettee at 479-3892.

June. A bicycling trip around Crater Lake in Oregon is planned tentatively for a weekend in June. Anyone interested may call Steve at 479-3892.

20-28 June. Backpacking and/or climbing in the Cascade Pass area. Time options include full week or just the weekend. Base camp will be made at Boston Basin which is several miles in. Call Steve at 373-3737.

27-28 June. A weekend on Mt. Hood in Oregon is planned by Steve Tontini. We plan to camp out Friday night, (people wishing to stay at Timberline Lodge should make their reservations early), work on our cross-country/downhill form on Saturday using the Palmer Lift while acclimating a little, and then climbing Mt. Hood early Sunday morning. Here's your chance to climb the world's 2nd most frequently climbed mountain (after Japan's Mt. Fuji). While the climb is relatively easy, a short refresher session in the use of ice ax, crampons, ropes and crevasse rescue techniques will be available Saturday afternoon. If interested call Steve at 479-3892.

UNUSUAL TRIPS

In an attempt to provide new avenues of outdoor enjoyment, Steve Tontini will try to arrange lessons, equipment rentals, demonstrations, etc. in sports or activities for which we have no known resident "expert" in the club membership. Unfortunately the cost of such endeavors may seem exorbitant compared to the gratis leadership we've become accustomed to. However, advantages may include

group discounts, camaraderie in attempting new sports and the generation of future "experts" for the club.

Glider Planes

\$35/person for a 30 minute demonstration ride. No group discounts are available because the cost of the tour plane is fixed. However, if we get a small group together, a movie on gliding is available.

Parachute Jumping

A First Jump Course is \$80/person (\$65/person for a group of 12). This would take a full Saturday or Sunday and includes a 5 hour lesson, use of all equipment necessary and the first jump.

White-water Rafting

A day long trip on the Wenatchee or Skykomish rivers including all necessary equipment and lunch on the river for approximately \$40/person. (optional wetsuits may be rented) A group reduction is available if we can get 16 people together. May 10th is the tentative date, but may be changed to accomodate schedules.

Kayak/Canoe

A six-day course in the summer is \$80/person with group rates available. 4 lessons and sessions on Green Lake in Seattle on weekday evenings are followed by trips on Satureay and Sunday on two different Cascade rivers.

Windsurfing

\$50/person includes use of wetsuit, sailboard and as many lessons are needed to become proficient. Rentals of sailboards are then available to graduates.

Hang Gliding

\$250/person (\$200/person in a group of three) includes lifetime use of equipment on Saturdays or Sundays (weather permitting) plus personalized instruction.

Unusual Trips (cont.)

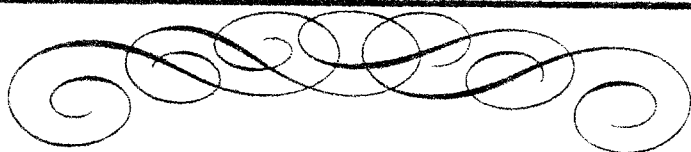
If any member has experience with the above sports (or any outdoor sports) with similar or better arrangements, Steve Tontini would appreciate any information available. If any of the above arrangements are of interest, please call Steve at 479-3892 for more information (with no need of a financial commitment). Steve would also be interested in getting together trips involving other sports, such as sailing or scuba, in which more experienced members could probably offer much needed advice.

Ski Conditions

X-C ski hotline. For information on ski conditions, John Fuller of the Nordic Mt. Ski School (see December entertainment) updates a recording several times a week with info from all over the Cascades. Call 325-5910.

Running

RUNNERS. The Mt. Constance Mt. Shoppe is sponsoring "Fun Runs" every Sunday. For more info. contact Pete or Judd at the shop.



Next month's newsletter will feature a series of articles on getting in shape for summer. Included in that series will be an interview with Charlie Zeek, talking about the Olympic College Mountaineering Course.

Slides Wanted

Members with slides of current trips are encouraged to contact Bob at 479-4692 or Charlie at 479-0463. You need not have a great number of slides-- a few to supplement a regular show would be great!

Letters to the Editor:

Wilderness Appreciation

I was asked to do a trip report on a place where I've been. One wish I've had for quite a while, has been to be able to get out as much as possible. Well, that has been coming true for the last 2-3 months. Some trips have been exceptionally beautiful with good weather; some have been real nice trips with rotten weather. No matter what the trip has been or where we have gone, there remains one nagging thought in the back of my mind: "How lucky we are to be able to experience this beautiful country we live in."

I have often asked someone I was with, "I wonder what the poor people are doing?---the ones who can't walk or talk or see or hear, the ones who are too disabled to live life to the fullest, as I feel some of us do." This may be a little too boring or serious for some to comprehend, but do yourself a favor the next time you are out in the mountains, or standing on a high summit--- just think how lucky you are, and ask yourself, "I wonder what the poor people are doing?"

Thanks for listening,

Skip McKenzie

Officers

President.	Bob Shaffer.	479-4692
Vice President	Jim Busek.	871-4691
Treasurer.	Dale Boyle	377-9042
Secretary.	Nancy Busek.	871-4691
Activity Coordinator	Steve Tontini.	479-3892
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Avalanche Notes

By Steve Tontini

The following is the third in a series of articles by Steve Tontini on the nature and dangers of avalanches. Steve recently attended an intensive 3-day avalanche seminar designed to increase one's knowledge of the avalanche phenomenon and the methods of reducing exposure to avalanche hazards.

This month we'll discuss some of the more obvious features which characterize a potential avalanche path.

1. Slope. The most dangerous "starting zones" for avalanches have a slope inclination of 30-45°. The human eye (and mind!) tends to exaggerate slope angles especially when the slope is directly below. A 20° slope appears quite steep to the cross-country skier. However, avalanches are possible on slopes outside of the 30-45° range. 5 people were killed in a wet snow avalanche on Mt. Fuji one spring, and conditions exist in the Andes for dangerous slab buildup on slopes up to 60°. In general, for the Cascades and Olympics all treeless slopes, bowls and gullies steeper than about 30° should be considered possible avalanche paths.
2. Runout. At a distance, avalanche paths and runouts often appear as treeless strips. An excellent example of this is to look back across the Nisqually Valley after crossing the Nisqually Bridge on the way to Paradise. But the absence of treeless strips and gullies does not imply safety. People have been buried and killed by avalanches on paths 10 meters long. Also the view from lower areas often gives a distorted impression of the starting zone and the avalanche track. People have been killed because they mistakenly assumed they were in the safety of the trees, which prevented them from seeing a dangerous starting zone.
3. "Trees of Disaster". Patches of slide alder or shrubs are sure signs of frequent avalanche activity (at least once every five years at a minimum) However, any change in vegetation from a prevalent species should signal a warning. Even relatively mature stands of yellow cedar or aspen surrounded by a closed forest of spruce or fir would imply an avalanche frequency of at least once every 10 to 29 years and must be considered dangerous.
4. Destruction of trees or branches. Fallen trees, aligned and having common shear heights, could indicate avalanches which, while not frequent, could reach catastrophic intensity. Branches are often removed from the uphill side of trees by significant avalanche activity.
5. Wind action. Since wind deposition of snow results in dangerous slab formations, attention should always be paid to wind direction, past and present. Cornices and smooth snow cover on leeward slopes signal dangerous areas. Evidences of wind erosion, such as bare spots or "sastrugi", may indicate safer slopes.
6. Recent Activity. The surest signs of danger are fracture lines in the upper starting zones or debris in the runout zone. People have been known to clamber over the chunks of snow of an avalanche debris only to be "nailed" by an avalanche a couple hundred yards down the trail.
7. Past History. This is perhaps the best of all information available. People very familiar with the area over a period of years, especially Rangers, can be of great assistance. Old avalanche paths regularly become new avalanche paths. Beware, on the other hand, of the person who brags, "I've been on this slope 100 times and it hasn't killed me yet." Make use of all the warning signs available so you too can survive to become an "old avalanche expert".