



May 1981

Whenever we go in the mountains  
we find more than we seek.

John Muir

## Calendar of Events

9 May. "Backpacking Daze" at the Mt. Constance Mt. Shoppe from 12 noon to 5 pm. In addition to information and demonstrations regarding backpacking equipment, two slide shows are going to be presented featuring Lou Whittaker and Jim Donnini.

9/10 May. Some room is still available on the Wenatchee River White Water Raft Trip. However, those who have reserved a place are reminded that Steve Tontini needs their \$35 paid in advance. An optional day of rockclimbing and/or hiking is planned on Saturday with camping on Icicle Creek, about 8 miles outside of Leavenworth. Call Steve at 479-3892 for suggestions on what to bring, car-pooling, expenses, etc....

## May Meeting...

11 May. The May meeting of the Peninsula Wilderness Club will be at 7:30 pm in room Art 103 at Olympic College. The entertainment this month features Mr. Gideon, a member of Search and Rescue, who is involved in training search dogs. These dogs have been used in avalanche rescue and most recently in the rescue attempts on Mt. St. Helens. The presentation will include a slide show.

13 May. A basic Running Seminar will be held at the Mt. Constance Mt. Shoppe. The cost is \$2. For details, talk to Pete or Judd at 377-0668.

15-17 May. A three-day trip climbing either Mt. Stuart or Glacier Peak in the Central Cascades. Anyone interested call Steve Tontini at 479-3892.

16 May. A family day hike. A good trip to get the family out on will be headed for Lower Lena Lake. If interested, call Nancy at 876-4691.

20 May. A basic Backpacking workshop and slide show will be held this Wednesday at the Mt. Constance Mt. Shoppe. If interested call Judd or Pete at 377-0668.

23-25 May. A three-day climb on Memorial Day Weekend of Mt. Rainier via the Comp Shurman Route. This is the gentlest route up Rainier, but experience in glacier travel and rope handling is necessary for this trip. If possible, complete rope teams (2-4 people) are desired. Interested parties call Sussette Tontini at 479-3892.

31 May. Our annual Ski-Down-From-Muir trip. We climb to camp Muir Sunday morning (consider it a conditioning trip for the hiking season) and ski back down to Paradise (consider it an "aurevoir" to the skiing season). No experience necessary for this trip. Take your downhill skis, cross-contry skis, snowshoes, or just your hiking boots and get out and enjoy the beauty of Mt. Rainier up close. Call Sussette Tontini at 479-3892 for more information.

To most folks around here the mention of fishing only conjures up images of trolling and mooching for salmon, or freezing one's phalanges in icy rivers to catch steelhead. Fortunately they don't know that the lakes and streams of the Olympics and Cascades contain many magnificent and tasty trout, which can be caught by relatively inexperienced anglers. Those few heavenly months between June and October provide the Northwest hiker-backpacker an extraordinary opportunity to combine wilderness wandering with trout fishing-eating.

Where Alpine trout are, and how to catch them and cook them are the subjects of this and two more articles.

Most alpine lakes in Washington contain trout. Some lakes freeze solid in winter or are chemically incapable of sustaining trout, so a fishing guide such as The Washington State Fishing Guide (\$5.95) should be consulted when planning a trout-packing trip. This book lists all the lakes in the state by county, size, location, fish species and suggested fishing spots.

The Olympics contain many more good lakes than the few popular ones which follow: Flapjack Lakes (R-rainbow trout, B-brook trout), Angeles Lake (R) Lena and Upper Lena Lakes (R,B, and C-Cut throat), Mt. Constance Lake (R,C), Mildred Lake (R), Grand Lake-obstruction peak area (R,B), Hart Lake (R,B), and Seven Lake-High Divide (R,B). Within the Olympic National Park you are not required to have a fishing license.

Some of the best areas near Mt. Rainier include: Allen Lake-west side road (C), Golden Lake-west side road (B), James Lake-Ipsut (R) and Snow & Bench-Stevens Canyon Road (B,C). A license is not required in Rainier Park.

Most of the hundreds of lakes in the Cascades contain brookies, rainbows and/or cut throat. The Alpine Lakes Wilderness area contains many excellent lakes and streams, but a license is required.

Due to natural lake evolution and other factors, including winter weather, the quality of fishing in a lake may vary greatly from year to year.

Because Alpine trout are more cold resistant than their down-stream cousins, fishing can be productive

# Mountain Trout Fishing

By I. Zik Wallten

within a few days after the spring melt out and remains good into October. The lower unshadowed Alpine lakes may open in May but most lakes clear during June and July. Early season fishing is better in the lakes with Brook trout because they are the most active species in cold water.

Trout are predatory and locate their prey principally by sight, so fishing during day-light hours is best. Early in the season trout are most active from noon till five, and during the warmer months fishing may be best during the hours near dusk and dawn.

Next month: Equipment and Techniques.

Note: If you have any trout fishing tactics to share with the club, you may do so by contacting me through Bob Shaffer, 479-4692. I.W.

## Events

19 June. PWC spring picnic! A potluck will be held at Manchester State Park. This is a brand-new park, situated on the water. Games are being planned and activities organized by Ted Wiles (857-2206), Joan Jerrett (479-4692) and Lynn Howat (598-4873). If you wish to help or have suggestions to contribute, contact on of these people.

20/21 June. Cross-Country skiing, hiking, and glacier practice are scheduled for Saturday, followed by a climb of Mt. Hood from Timberline on Sunday morning. Call Steve Tontini at 479-3892 for more info.

## For Sale

Witco snow shovel  
Optimus 99 stove with extra parts.

If interested, call Ted at 857-2206.

# NISQUALLY SNOOT

BY PAUL PLEVICH

Another perfect day in the Great Northwest! Such was the mutual consensus of all in the car as we breezed through the National Park gateway with Skip's assistance--the Mighty Golden Eagle Pass strikes again!

March 8 saw the third beautiful weekend in a row in our area. Thus Dale and Lee Boyle, Skip McKenzie, Ted Wiles and I drove to Mt. Rainier for a little exploring expedition to the snout of the Nisqually Glacier. Hopefully we could squeeze in a little ice climbing on the ice fall, and add some potential climbs to our mental catalogues for future reference.

The trailhead for this little excursion is conveniently located directly under the Nisqually River Bridge. One then follows the Nisqually River to its source--the Nisqually Glacier. Quite appalling in its simplicity--right? So, with packs packed and feet shod in mountain boots, we started up-river for the snout. However, numerous devious distractions confronted us as we labored onward.

"Hey--lookit' that gully--that'd be great under full ice conditions!"

"Yeah--look there--another one with plenty of trees to use as protection points!"

"Well, I've got a short ice-rack, wanta give it a go?" (This from Dale, who's always ready).

"Naw, the ice is pretty thin and crumbly, maybe later, huh."

You can expect much of this type of banter with any group of climbers in the mountains. Many dismiss it, at first, as incongruous mutterings or even gibberish, but such is the jargon of mountaineers. Once one muddles through the class-systems and severity of climbs (always hypothetical), one may even be able to pick out that fairytale "line" upwards. But I digress.

Amidst this mountaineering mumbo-jumbo, we happen upon a large boulder, festooned with three human-sized crack systems. Off come the packs, out come the cameras, and up go the rock-jocks--formerly ice-apes. Once our climbing frenzy was sated, we regained our

packs and strolled pleasantly and uninterruptedly to the snout of the glacier.

What an eerie and magically mysterious place this was--with icy blues, snowy whites, and blackly stained streaks and caverns. This was the terminus of an entire glacier; an ice river; millions upon millions of tons of ice inching its way toward us imperceptibly. Yet it was alive with creaks, groans, dripping and rushing water, and whizzing stones...

Wait a minute! Whizzing stones?!! I knew we's all had it when a fist sized rock planted itself two inches from my foot. Stones, rocks, and Buick-sized boulders crested the rim of the glacier like salt on a margarita glass. Well, it was time for this cowboy to depart the danger area, so I (with the better part of valor) hastened downslope as the others continued up around the glacier's edge.

Awaiting the leader's decision to agree with me, I watched more rocks come down into the area we had so recently occupied. In this case the leader was Dale, and as the rocks continued their plunge, coming now from the walls of the river valley, he too decided to mosey down-river. Lee had just taken a shot on the wrist, which hastened Dale's decision.

On the way to the car, we examined the possible gully climbs more closely and decided they would "go" next time with proper gear. Once in the comparative safety of the car, we decided to head up to Paradise to round the day out with a short hike.

We reached a completely filled parking lot--jammed with hundreds of tourists--the scourge of every climber's life. Hundreds of them; tubing, walking, drinking, eating, crying, and littering here in our place! Why this was a bigger circus than Barnum and Bailey ever dreamed of. Disgustedly we mounted up and picked our way up well-skied slopes toward Alta Vista, where Skip knew of a good long glissade to salvage this day.

Our boots sunk only two to three inches into the snow as we trudged up to the ridge to Alta Vista, to rendezvous with one minute of fast fun in a downward direction. On top of Alta Vista, we donned our GoreTex

## Nisqually Snout

and nylon windpants, secured our packs, and made ready for the suicide slide. Completely controlled, fast with many joyous screams--what a ride it was!

Once down, it was out to Moore's Restaurant, which had been calling us irresistably for some time. We soon brought the expedition to a successful conclusion with Moore-burgers, shakes, and chocolate pies for all.

26 July. "The Great Olympic Mountain Marathon". This 16.3 mile marathon is going to be run in the Olympic National Park between Deer Park and Hurricane Ridge Lodge. Volunteers are needed to help in this event. This is a great opportunity to get out for a hike and help too! Aid stations need to be manned as well as other responsibilities. For information contact Pete or Judd at the Mt. Constance Mt. Shoppe, 377-0668.

## Officers

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