



The peninsula wilderness club MAY 1986

club calendar

12 May MONDAY MONTHLY MEETING HAZEL WOLF ON NICARAGUA

Our guest speaker for the May 12th meeting will be Hazel Wolf. She canceled out in April due to a trip. This 87 year old lady puts all her time and energy into fighting battles for the environment. She has kayaked in Alaska, rafted the Rouge River, canoed the Boundary Waters canoe area and backpacked all over the country.

On a recent trip to Nicaragua, she and other environmentalists checked out that country's environmental protection program. Ms Wolf has helped stop plans for an oil pipeline from Alaska through Puget Sound, lobbied against big irrigation projects and sued to halt plans for building a nuclear power plant on the Skagit River.

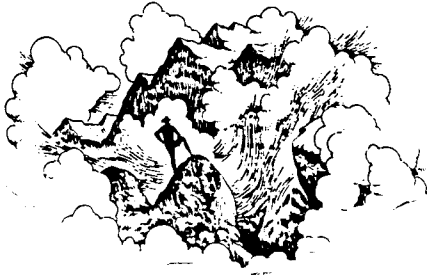
Come on members! Lets all turn out to see this great lady.

INTERESTED MEMBER PREMEETING GET TOGETHER

6:15 PM SEA GALLEY

For those who would like to meet Ms Wolf informally, you are cordially invited to join us for diner before the meeting at the Sea Galley over by Harrison Hospital in Exotic East Bremerton. Ask for Alice Savage at the desk.

THE PENINSULA WILDERNESS CLUB MEETS THE SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7:30 PM
AT THE KITSAP UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH ON PERRY AVENUE IN EAST BREMERTON



TUNNEL CREEK TRAIL

29 March 1986

Clint Porter

The Friday night telephone call from Mac Dowell asking me if I would be interested in doing some climbing around Mt. Constance came as a surprise but after warning him that I really wasn't a technical climber, said I would give it a try.

When we got together the next morning to compare ideas we found that we had come up with the same plan, namely to climb the ridge north of the Dosewallips by way of the Tunnel Creek Trail and from there to follow the ridge line west as far as we could toward the mountain. It was a cloudy, overcast day, but we had hopes that the weather would clear by the time we got to the ridge top and we would then be able to see our way farther.

The trail head is located about nine miles up the Dosewallips with a small parking area nearby. The trail leads off up the side of the ridge at what seemed to us almost straight up. (The sign said 30 degrees.) Well, it seemed straight up to us and it pretty much stayed that way the entire 3.5 miles. Despite the coolness of the weather both of us were soon sweating like pigs.

About half way up we came across a rather interesting sight. There is a waterfall, with no stream above it. The water flows directly out of the ground, over the rock cliff, down across the trail, only to disappear once again into ground again, barely 30 feet below the trail.

We didn't encounter any snow until we reached the ridge top where it is still pretty deep. Because of the constantly shifting clouds and fog we could not see a great distance. So we made for the highest ground, a knoll at 5345 feet, to see what we could see and plan our next moves. Surprisingly, the snow had already cleared on the knoll itself, but visibility was no better except that, when the clouds shifted a bit, we could tell that Mount Constance loomed right in front of us. It was a very frustrating experience. We knew that there were just beyond the constantly shifting clouds some fabulous vistas to be seen and photographed but all we could get were a few peeks. We decided to nap for a bit to see if conditions might change. Mac found himself a comfortable spot to lie down and was soon emitting some rather peculiar noises which I presumed meant that he was asleep.

Although we were blessed with passing patches of sunshine from time to time, it never really did clear and we finally headed back down. I decided, however, that I would make a return trip later in the season to enjoy those splendid views that I knew were out there somewhere, just beyond the clouds.

The climb up, from 500 feet to 5345 feet took four hours and ten minutes while the return back down required only 2 hours and 20 minutes.

community interest

BACKPACKING 86 APRIL AND MAY PENSTEMON GUIDE SERVICE

The P.G.S. , in cooperation with Bremerton Parks and Recreation, will be conducting a course for the basic backpacker through both lectures and field trips. Subjects will include walking technique, clothing and equipment, and minimum impact camping. For more information call 377-9042.

INTRODUCTION TO MOUNTAINEERING 86 MAY AND JUNE PENSTEMON GUIDE SERVICE

In cooperation with Bremerton Parks and Recreation, P.G.S. is putting on an introductory course in basic mountaineering. Course includes both lectures and practical training in the field. For more information call 377-9042.

OLYMPIC COLLEGE CLIMBING COURSE

Olympic College offers a course in Basic Mountaineering each spring about this time of year. The emphasis is on self-sufficiency in the mountains and the fundamental rules of safety. For more information, call Olympic College at 478-4506.

HELP NEEDED IN THE OLYMPICS

Dale Boyle reports, volunteers are needed to work in and around the Staircase area, site of last years forest fires. Watch the newsletter for more information about time and date.

HELPING OUT IN THE OUTDOORS

Volunteers can also put their time to good use, "Helping Out In The Outdoors" This is the title of a directory published twice yearly, about working for national parks and forests in 42 states. Naturalists, historians, campground hosts, fire lookouts and trail workers are needed. These are non-paying jobs. but in some cases travel and food expenses are covered. The directory may be ordered for \$3 from Helping Out In The Outdoors, P.O. Box 2514-Z, Lynnwood, Wa. 98036.

SAVE THE RHODIES

Recently, a 200-acre parcel of land, known as the Mountaineers Rhododendron Preserve, has been transferred to the Mountaineers Foundation. The state granted the Foundation to classify the preserve as a Conservancy.

This area, near Seabeck, surrounds 20 acres belonging to the Mountaineers Club. Here they have a lodge and the Outdoor Forest Theatre where summer theatrical preformances have been held since the 1930's. The club's 20 acres are not included in the transfer. This is a lovely area with its native pink rhododendrons. The Preserve also boasts a stand of lodgepole pine, not usually seen west of the cascades.

Donations are now being asked for by the Mountaineers Foundation to help purchase additional land around the Preserve to provide a buffer zone against approaching construction and logging.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We, the editorial staff of your newsletter, have set as one of our goals the objective of improving the classiness of this here publication. But we can't do it by our lonesomes. One of the problems, as we see it, is that too few members are contributing articles and we figure that maybe you would like a bit more variety. So why don't some of you good folks, sit down with pen or pencil, crayon if you prefer, to work up a little something for us about what you've been up to lately. Send it direct to one of our editors and we will try to get it into the next edition.

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