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Peninsula Wilderness Club Events

August 1994

Peninsula Wilderness Club meets on the second Monday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Kitsap Unitarian Fellowship Church on Perry Avenue in East Bremerton. The public is cordially invited.



Outdoor Cook-Off

The PWC Outdoor Cook-Off will be held at the regular August meeting. The two categories are Breakfast/Dinner and Lunch/Snacks. Enter as often as you like. Entries are judged on weight, ease of preparation and cleanup, nutritional value and, of course, taste. To assist judges in making fair and well-informed evaluations make the following preparations:

- 1) Prepare the recipe to feed 2 persons.
- 2) Write the recipe down on standard 8 1/2" x 11" paper. It's nice to make extra copies for fellow club members who will be nibbling at and swooning over your gourmet meal.
- 3) Bring an extra set of ingredients to display next to your dish for meals that must be prepared on the trail (i.e., NOT cookies, breads, etc. that can be prepared at home and thrown into your backpack ready-to-eat). This will allow the judges to make a more accurate assessment of the actual packing weight for your recipe.

NOTE: Entries may be prepared either at the meeting or ahead of time. If you are preparing your recipe early and arriving with just your finished product, remember your additional set of ingredients, as well as, the pots and/or pans required on the trail to prepare the dish. Again, this is important to make a fair judgement of weight.

If your entry is a ready-to-eat product (i.e., it can be packed in its final form - brownies, cookies, granola) just bring the item.

Gift certificates from the Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe will be awarded to the top four finishers and two honorable mentions in each category. There are plenty of chances to win, so start brainstorming. Sometimes, simple trail favorites take the prize.

If you have any questions, contact Teresa Miller at 373-6781 or Doug Savage at 698-9774.

Upcoming Events

Mt. Adams Ascent

Dan Kirschbaum is considering a climb of Mt. Adams sometime in early August. If you are interested in joining, Dan can be reached at 698-3684.

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Mt. Si Climb

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6th; Chris Hildebrand is organizing a climb of Mt. Si. This is considered a 2nd class climb. For more information, call Chris at 698-9774.

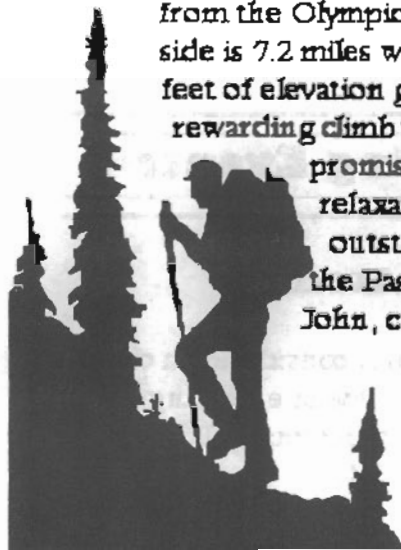
Duckabush - East Fork of the Quinalt Adventure

AUGUST 7th thru 12th; Doug Savage has changed his Duckabush- East Fork of the Quinalt hike to August 7th through 12th. The trip will include a two day lay-over in the Hart Lake and LaCrosse Lake area. The Enchanted Valley is rated '4 stars'. For more information, call Doug at 698-9774.

Appleton Pass Overnighter

WEEKEND of AUGUST 13th and 14th; John Knott is planning a hike to Appleton Pass. The hike may be accomplished via the Sol Duc side, the Olympic Hot Springs side or both, depending on the group and the negotiations for car swapping. The trail

from the Olympic Hot Springs side is 7.2 miles with about 3000 feet of elevation gain. This is a rewarding climb with the promise of peaceful relaxation over outstanding vistas at the Pass. To join John, call 792-2440.



Quilcene to Dosewallips Traverse

WEEKEND of AUGUST 20th and 21st; Doug Savage will hike up the Big Quilcene over Marmot and Constance Passes and out the Dosewallips. The trip is about 18 miles and 3500 feet of elevation gain, with scenic views of peaks and valleys and diverse flora and terrain promised throughout. Contact Doug at 698-9774.

Grand Park

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27th; Teresa Miller will be hiking to Grand Park in Mt. Rainier National Park. Grand Park is a lush plateau with views of the mountain, abundant wildflowers and the possibility of seeing elk and bear. Round trip is approximately 13 miles with 2000 feet of elevation gain throughout. To join Teresa, contact her at 373-6781.

Mt. Olympus

SEPTEMBER 1st thru 6th; Barry Johnson and John Ellsworth are organizing a climb of Mt. Olympus. This climb requires glacier experience (ice axe, crampons, etc.). They have six people already committed and are looking for another six to round out their rope teams. This promises to be an exhilarating adventure. John says, 'If we can kill a deer, we may never come back!' To join in, call Barry at 373-5334, or John at 698-7120.

- More upcoming hikes on page 4 -

This and That

Interested Members Meeting/ Barbecue

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11th; The interested members meeting for August will be preceded by a barbecue at Lynn Howat's house in Suquamish. Hamburgers and hot dogs with the fixings will be provided. Bring a side dish and ideas for outings, programs, etc. Call Lynn for directions at 598-3087.



New Members

The PWC welcomes the following new members from the months of June and July:

Thomas Banks
Kris Bell
Jay Benham
Jim Bluhm
June Cotner
Louella Hanson
Patricia Jough-Haan
Pat Kessler
Kristi & Andrew Wallace
Cheri Chambers
Sharon Eytel

Potluck

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26th; Bert and Diana Cripe are sponsoring a potluck at their new home in Port Orchard. Prepare your favorite dish; and, prepare yourself for food, fun and lively conversation. This is an excellent opportunity to see old friends or make new ones. To RSVP and get directions, contact Bert or Diana at 895-4299.

Refreshment Coordinator

Thanks to Jenny Mauer who served as the club refreshment coordinator. Jenny had to resign her position and the club is now seeking a person to assume her duties. Don't be intimidated; all those yummy treats at the meetings are NOT made by the same person. The refreshment coordinator prepares the beverages and contacts a few club members each month to secure volunteers to bring in the snacks. All costs involved with making the preparations are refundable through the club treasurer. This is a fun and easy way to become more involved with the club. If you would like to volunteer, contact a club officer by telephone or at the next meeting.



September Trips

Thousand Acre Meadows

SEPTEMBER 3rd thru 5th; Doug Savage is hiking up the Dosewallips River into Thousand Acre Meadows. It is about 15 miles and 3700 feet of elevation gain along varied and enjoyable trail to the lush beauty of Thousand Acre Meadows. Wildlife should be abundant and vegetation diverse. Contact Doug at 698-9774.

Four Pass Hike

SEPTEMBER 17th thru 21st; Doug Savage and Joe Weigel are planning a four pass hike from Obstruction Point out the Elwha River. The trip is approximately 42 miles long and crosses over Grand, Cameron, Lost and Hayden Passes. Hikers will enjoy beautiful old growth forest along the Cameron and Elwha Rivers. The high country of the passes should afford lush fields of wildflowers. A plethora of friendly, industrious bears will be competing with hikers for berries in the Thousand Acre Meadows. To join in this excursion, call Doug at 698-9774 or Joe at 871-0291.

Mildred Lakes Day-Hike

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th; Charlie Pomfret will be day-hiking to Mildred Lakes. These three lakes, formed by a glacier from the looming Sawtooth Range, are a little over five miles from the trailhead. The elevation gain is about 2100 feet, with some particularly steep sections which are mercifully short. Hikers will pass through areas of both second growth and virgin forest to get to these beautiful lakes overlooked by Mt. Lincoln, Mt. Cruiser and Alpha. Call Charlie at 479-7820.

Hike to Harrison Lake

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th; Bert Cripe is organizing a day-hike to Harrison Lake via Tunnel Creek. This is a 7.4 mile round trip venture with 2100 feet of elevation gain. Hikers meander through old-growth western hemlock and silver fir on their way to the Twin Lakes, Harrison and Karnes. To join Bert for an enjoyable day in the woods, call 895-4299.



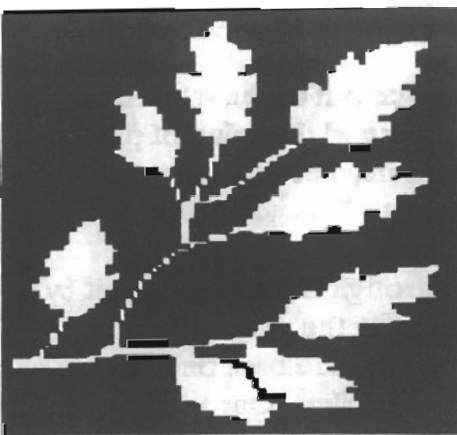
SEEKING: Looking for individuals with glacier travel experience interested in climbing Mt. Olympus sometime in August (not Labor Day). Contact David Bilodeau at 895-4269 after 5:00 pm or on weekends; leave message.

Show Your Stuff!

The club is considering, for the November meeting entertainment, an opportunity for members to show a few of their favorite slides from their own outdoor experiences. If you don't take slide film, please do NOT exclude yourself from this event. Print film can be successfully converted into slide images.

People with prints requiring conversion may be able to collaborate with other members in a group submittal in order to minimize the cost of conversion to slides. Discuss your options with the project coordinator, T. J. Ellsworth.

T. J. will be taking the names of people who would like to show 5 to 10 of their favorite images. If you would like to participate, whether you already have slides or need prints



converted, contact T. J. at 698-7120 NO LATER THAN the September meeting (September 12th).

Another Roadside Attraction

by Doug Savage

Some people may think I like hamburgers; they're right. After a long weekend hike nothing is better than a greasy burger, fries and Coke. It's part of the reason I never lose weight.

When driving State Highway 101 back from trails in the northeast section of the Olympics there is no better burger joint than Fat Smitty's in Discovery Bay. The place is not hard to find. There's an 8' tall hamburger carved from cedar in the parking lot along with a slightly larger than life size replica of Fat Smitty.

Walking into Smitty's is like walking back in time to a 1950's greasy spoon diner which, in fact, is just what the restaurant is. There are homemade pies in the glass case and rows of every imaginable domestic and imported beer on the display shelf (There's a two beer limit, strictly enforced). The ceiling is covered with one dollar bills pinned up with visitors' calling cards. And, the walls are filled with Marine Corp memorabilia.

There is a lot on the menu, but go straight to the burger section. If you're starving, try the Fat Smitty Burger and fries \$4.75. It's a 1/2 lb of freshly made and freshly cooked burger, cheese, bacon, garden fresh veggies, etc. The french fries are hand cut right at the store. Try to save room for a slice of pie. It's worth it!

WANTED: Good, reasonably priced 3-season, 2-person, low profile tent and a seat harness (commercial type). Contact Roy Smith at 373-3836.

Mount Shuksan

by Chris Bell

Two years ago I attempted a climb of Shuksan, but was stopped by inclement weather just above Winnie's Slide. This time I was determined to make the summit. Craig Martin, Gary Goodwin and my son Tor all shared the same goal.

When the road to the trailhead was blocked by snow the message should have been obvious, but we were optimists.

Leaving the car shortly after 7:00 pm on a Friday, in late June, without a trail and plodding through snow, we were able to make camp at Lake Ann before 10:00 pm. The evening sky was clear, and visibility was aided by an almost full moon.

The lake was frozen, and our tents were pitched on snow. In the early morning hours we left for the summit. Although snow obscured all trails, we could see our route and except for a few false starts up the rock of the Fisher Chimney's (Beckey did not write his directions with me in mind), we proceeded uneventfully. Finally we were back on the snow, and the real test of endurance.

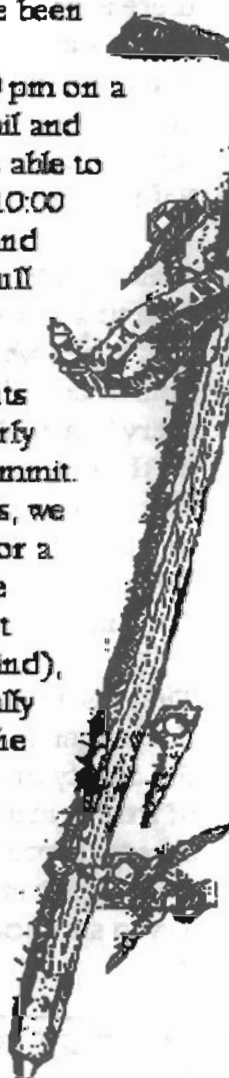
There had been considerable fresh snow, which had not consolidated. Each step was equivalent to putting a foot into concrete which was just setting up. Craig made a valiant effort to keep us moving, and we mounted the upper Curtis Glacier, still optimistic that the summit would be reached. Finally we realized that the work in

breaking trail in the snow was more than we could collectively handle. We were exhausted. One thousand vertical feet short of our goal and we gave up, starting the trudge back through the now sloppy snow.

The weather had been brilliant, except for clouds which we noticed creeping through the valleys below. No problem. At least not until we were halfway down

through the Chimneys. I set my pack on a ledge, to take off my harness. Slowly, inexorably, the pack leaned forward. Either too tired, or simply mesmerized by the sight of this pack voluntarily leaving its perch, I failed to make the move that would have avoided the next big maneuver - my pack headed down the cliff and out of sight. An anchor was set and I rappelled the full length of the rope, to find the pack in the bed of a small stream, at the base of a waterfall. My extra clothing had just been thoroughly washed.

Drying everything was out of the question, and fortunately I learned the value of pile - it can be worn reasonably wet and still provide considerable comfort. This was rather important, since we began to notice that every step down through the rock was met by a corresponding rise in the clouds from below. By the time we were back on snow there was no more visibility. Our tracks from the morning could barely be seen, due to the melting snow. Our compasses provided a direction, but travelling in conditions where the person in front became invisible at twenty feet presented a real challenge to our sense of direction.

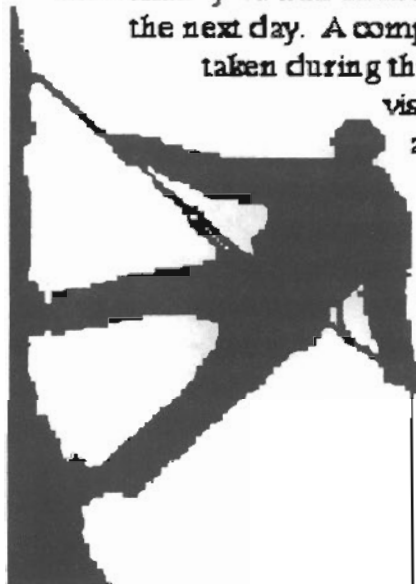


- Mount Shuksan continued from page 6 -

By eight in the evening we reached where we believed Lake Ann should be found, but the ridge on which we stood did not correspond to our knowledge of the area. We were bushed. Visibility had not improved. Decision time: do we flounder on, or make arrangements to spend the night in the clump of trees in which we found ourselves? The decision was not difficult, and we started the process of gathering wood and inventorying the shelter each had carried with us. Tor was carrying a bivy sack which he and I would share. Craig and Gary had both clothing and bits and pieces of plastic and gortex material to provide protection from the rain, which coincidentally had decided to fall. We all had candles and a roaring fire was soon keeping us reasonably warm.

Suddenly our penance having apparently been complete, the sky parted and 200 yards below we could see our tents. For the next forty minutes we could see, and that was the last visibility we had until reaching the car the next day. A compass reading was

taken during this moment of visibility, in anticipation of our trip out in the morning. It was fortuitous.



I suppose we all attempt to find value in each trip taken into the mountains, even those trips where the ultimate goal is not reached. This trip was unique for all of us. Under adverse conditions we did not panic. We each had our ten essentials, and a few more. We were prepared to weather out the night. Quite frankly, I will never be without a bivy bag on future trips. Most importantly, our spirits were high throughout, and today we can laugh at a most unusual but interesting effort to summit Mount Shuksan. By the way, I will try again next year - in September.



Officer Elections

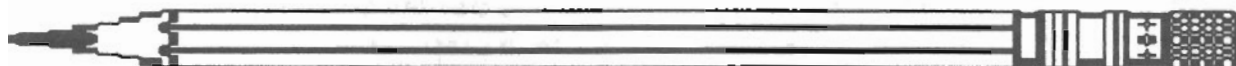
Fall is coming, and so too is the annual election of PWC officers. Joyce Kimmel has volunteered to head a nominating committee which will answer questions regarding the positions and take names of interested members. If you are interested in running for an office or know a member who you feel is a good candidate, contact Joyce at 876-1497, or Lynn Howat at 598-3087.

Nominations are announced in October; elections are held in November; and, new officers assume their positions in January. Don't be intimidated. No experience is necessary. These positions take some energy and enthusiasm but often reciprocate these same qualities back to the officers.

Newsletter Contributions

Articles, trip reports, interviews, announcements, etc for the PENWICKE can be sent to: Teresa Miller, P.O. Box 3163, Bremerton, WA 98310; Or, phone 373-6781. Please include your name and telephone number with your submittals.

A small group of members spends a few hours in the evening near the end of each month assembling and preparing the newsletter for mailing. If you would like to help out, contact Doug Savage at 698-9774.



Club Officers

President.....Dan Kirschbaum.....698-3684
Vice Pres.....Helen Schwartz.....377-9822
Secretary.....Pat Kirschbaum.....698-3684
Treasurer.....Kevin Kilbridge.....871-2537

Miscellaneous Staff

Editor.....Teresa Miller.....373-6781
Contributors.....H.Schwartz.....D.Savage...
Entertainment.....Joe Weigel.....871-0291
Refreshments.....[Open].....

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