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Peninsula Wilderness Club Events

October 1995

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.

M **eeting** **October 9th**

The Wonders of Iceland

Doris Rogers will present a slide show from her 1994 trip to Iceland. Doris and her daughter traveled to the island nation primarily for bird watching, but were taken in by the magnificence of Iceland's geology. The presentation will include glaciers, wildflowers, birds, lava features and thermal activity.

Upcoming Events

North Fork of Soleduck

OCTOBER 7th thru 9th; The North Fork of the Soleduck Trail passes through primitive forests of Douglas Fir, Hemlock and Silver Fir. Hikers will observe virgin firs up to 5 feet in diameter, and may encounter elk along the 9 miles of this relatively remote trail. Expect minimal elevation gain. Contact Doug Savage at 698-9774, or Joe Weigel at 871-0291.

Beginners' Rock Climbing

OCTOBER 7th and 8th; Rock climbing in the Leavenworth area is back by popular demand. Experienced, current and former, PWC members will volunteer their knowledge and guidance. The weekend is designed to turn beginners on to this exciting sport, but climbers of all experience levels are welcome.



Climbing will be at Pashastan Pinnacles. Rock shoes are a must for this sandstone/friction class. Also arrange to bring your own harness. Other equipment will be provided by the more experienced climbers. Plan on camping in one of the nearby state parks. Contact Tony Abruzzo at 871-5754 for more information, or for making carpooling arrangements.

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Kayaking on Hood Canal

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th; Join members of the Washington Water Trails Association and Kitsap County Parks personnel as they tour and evaluate the best location for one of the latest campsites to be added to the Cascadia Marine Trail.

Kayak to Guillemont Cove (Frenchman's Cove) on Hood Canal. Paddlers will put in at Miami Beach near Scenic Beach State Park in Seabeck. The trip is approximately 5.5 miles (one way). Participants should have basic sea kayaking skills and must supply their own equipment. Bring water, lunch and clothing suitable for any type of weather. Contact Bert Cripe at 895-4299.



Climbing at Stone Garden

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th; Join Bill Boileau for a day of indoor climbing at Stone Garden in the Ballard area. Climbing equipment is available through the facility. This outing is suitable for all levels of climber, from beginners on up. Contact Bill for more information about equipment and facility fees, 613-5263.

Deer Ridge Trail

SATURDAY, October 21st; Hike the Deer Ridge Trail from Slab Camp to Deer Park. The trail is 5 miles (one way) with 2800 feet of elevation. Portions of the trail pass through lichen-covered virgin Douglas firs. Views of the upper Graywolf, The Needles, Mt. Baldy and surrounding peaks reward hikers. Contact Doug Savage at 698-9774

Pyramid Mountain

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29th; Hike to the outstanding vistas of Pyramid Mountain (3.5 miles (one way) and 2400 ft of elevation gain). This scenic hike passes through portions of virgin forest and provides exceptional views of Lake Crescent, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Storm King and the Aurora Ridge. At the summit there stands an aircraft spotting lookout from World War II and a cabin. Contact Steve Vittori at 377-1869.

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More Opportunities

WINTERFEST 96'

Winterfest 1996 is at the Inn of Packwood near White Pass, February 17th-19th.

The inn has three large rooms, each with sleeping arrangements for six, as well as, kitchen and living areas. These rooms can serve as gathering spots after the long days of winter play. One member has already volunteered to reserve a large room. Other members are encouraged to gather some fun-loving roommates and plan to reserve the larger accommodations.

Additional rooms available have sleeping arrangements as follows: one queen, one queen and two twins, and two queens. All rooms have their own baths. The inn also has a heated indoor swimming pool and hot tub.

If you are interesting in getting a roommate for the weekend, contact Doug Savage at 698-9774.

The White Pass area offers a variety of fun for downhill and cross-country skiers, as well as, snow-shoers and other winter enthusiasts. Make your Saturday and Sunday night reservations by calling (360)494-5500. As of August 22nd, the inn was NOT taking reservations for the 1996 year. Be alert for an up-date on when you can make your reservations for this fun-filled annual event.

1996 Ski Hut Outings

Tony Abruzzo is organizing three Mt. Tahoma ski hut trips for 1996 (Jan. 21/21, Feb. 10/11 and March 9/10). Members need to notify Tony of the trips they wish to attend. Because the number of persons who may join each trip is limited, reserved spaces will be assigned via lottery.

AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING the names of interested persons will be entered; reserved spots will go to those whose names are drawn. Drawings for all three trips will be conducted at this time. Contact Tony at 871-5754.

If you are chosen for a reserved spot, you must write a \$25 deposit check to the PWC (\$25 for each reserved spot). Deposits will be refunded after the trip.

JANUARY 20th and 21st; Ski to the Copper Creek Hut. This is suitable for beginning skiers and beyond.

FEBRUARY 10th and 11th; Intermediate skills are desirable for this trip to Snow Bowl Hut.

MARCH 9th and 10th; Copper Creek is the destination; all skill levels welcome.



For more information on the backcountry facilities Mt. Tahoma Trails Association provides, see page 5.

This and That

Interested Members Meeting

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12th; Joe and Kathy Weigel will host the October Interested Members Meeting at their home in Port Orchard. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Club business and ideas for upcoming activities will be discussed. New members are particularly encouraged to attend, as this is an excellent opportunity to get to know members. Call 871-0291 for directions.



October Potluck

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20th; Bring your favorite Fall or Oktoberfest dish and join club members for this month's potluck at Hildegard Stone's beginning at 6:00 pm. Meet new members, renew old friendships and share stories from your summer adventures. Carpooling is encouraged. To RSVP and get directions, call Hildegard at 692-5984.

New Members

New PWC members for the month of September are: Teresa Brooks, Karen Clements and Brenda McCormick.

Address Changes

If you need to change the address to which your newsletter is delivered, notify Jim Luddon at the following address: 165 NW Alta Drive; Bremerton, WA 98310. You can also change your address at the time you pay your annual dues. Please do NOT call the newsletter editor to report changes of address; this creates extra work steps for our volunteer staff, and may delay updating of the database and your newsletter delivery.

Newsletter Contributions

Articles, trip reports, interviews, announcements, etc for the PENWICKLE can be sent to:

Teresa Miller,
P.O. Box 3163, Bremerton, WA 98310; Or, phone 373-6781. The deadline for inclusion in next month's publication is the 17th of each month. The earlier material is submitted, the better. Please include your name and telephone number with your submittals.



September Door Prize

Bruce Candioto was the lucky winner of September's door prize, an adjustable Petzl headlamp. Thanks to Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe for donating the monthly door prize.

Mt. Tahoma Trails Assoc.



The Mt. Tahoma Trails Association maintains 88 miles of cross-country ski trails, 3 huts and a yurt

entirely through volunteer labor and donations. The trails are located near Mt. Rainier and Ashford, Washington. The huts are stocked with wood burning stoves and firewood; propane stoves, lanterns and fuel; pots and pans; and, sleeping pads. Skiers should bring their own food, mess kits and sleeping bags, as well as, the ten essentials.

The huts sleep between 6 and 12 people. You can reserve berths for a large party or small, depending on the availability of quarters. Huts are filled to capacity whenever possible. There is no charge for use of the huts, but a refundable damage deposit of \$25 per person per day is required.



Huts are reserved on a first come, first served basis. Reservations may be made at the annual Gala (to be held in November), or by requesting a hut reservation form at the following address: Mt. Tahoma Trails Association; Attn: Hut Reservation Program; P.O. Box 206; Ashford, WA 98304. Include a self addressed, stamped envelope with your request. Between December 15th and April 7th call (206)569-2451, or stop in at the headquarters at the Bunkhouse in Ashford between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm on Saturdays or Sundays for more details or reservation forms.

Officer Elections

Elections for PWC officers will be held at the regular Monday night meeting in October. Nominations during the September meeting yielded the following candidates:

President - Steve Vittori
Vice President - Harry Wilson
Secretary - Lyn Lund
Treasurer - Kevin Kilbridge

Anyone else wishing to be considered for an office may be nominated prior the election process in October. Questions and further information is available from current club officers or the newsletter editor (names and phone numbers listed on the back of newsletter).

Rugged Ridge/Indian Pass

by Doug Savage

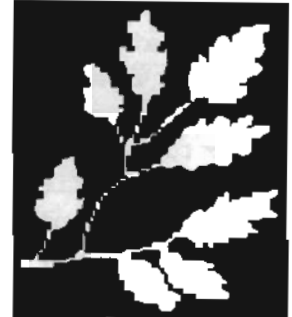
On the Fourth of July Weekend I did a solo day hike of the Rugged Ridge/Indian Pass trails. The trail can be reached by taking Forest Service Road 29 (off Highway 101 just north of Forks, WA.). Bear right at 2900-070 and go to the end of the road.

The trail makes a gradual ascent from the road to the crest of Rugged Ridge, a 350 ft elevation gain through western hemlocks and Douglas firs. There are four or five minor stream crossings as the trail drops to the Calawah River. Judging by Robert Wood's description in the book Olympic Mountains Trail Guide, I expected that the Calawah was going to be a significant obstacle. Much to my surprise, it was about 40 ft wide and barely ankle deep.



The trail becomes faint as it approaches the river. There is a cairn on the north side of the river. The trail on the south side (Indian Pass) is directly across from the cairn. An excellent campsite is located on the north side.

After the river crossing and a brief stop for lunch, I started the gradual ascent to Indian Pass. There is only about a 400 ft gain to the pass, but the trail is often blocked by windfall and is faint at places. Upon attaining the ridge, the trail meanders along for a few miles before another gradual drop to an intersection with the Bogachiel River trail, near the now gone Bogachiel Shelter. At this point, there are excellent campsites located all along the trail and on gravel bars in the river.



Trail Clearing Equipment Purchased

The club authorized the purchase of a 3 1/2 ft saw for trail maintenance projects during the September Interested Members Meeting. The saw will be useful for many of the wind-falls crews encounter during trail cleaning efforts, and is a reasonable size and weight for packing into remote areas. The total purchase price, including shipping charges, is \$109.

Bivouac at 6300 Feet

by B. R. Love

Bill and I rendezvoused early on a typical summer morning with a mix of sun and clouds and moderate temperatures. We headed for the Tubal Cain trailhead, intending a day hike of about 12 miles over Hawk Peak Ridge and out Silver Lake Valley.

We visited the mine and headed up to Tull City for lunch. We didn't tarry long over lunch as the mosquito population was very active. By the time we made the ridge, the ceiling had dropped and clouds were bouncing off the peaks. Not to worry, we had seen this many times before and the clouds always rose as the afternoon sun warmed things up.

We passed under Hawk Peak and headed out on the easterly ridge. By the time we arrived at the point where I believed we should descend to Silver Lake, the visibility had decreased significantly and I was unsure of my position. In addition to the fog (cloud), there was a snow field extending to the ridge line obscuring any trace of a trail.

Unable to see downhill any distance to confirm this was the correct route, the snow field being very hard under about one inch of slush, and my memory of the route down being several hundred feet of very steep hillside, we decided to explore the ridge to the east, searching for a safe route down.

At about 1500 hours, a look at the map, compass and altimeter confirmed we were still on the easterly ridge, but exactly where was anybody's guess. Previously, we had agreed to reverse course at this time and we did, deciding to backtrack all the way and walk out the way we had come in.

Too long after we started back, we were still on a ridge. Out came the navigation tools and we placed ourselves

somewhere on a north/south ridge at about 6300 feet. Boy,

did we ever miss a turn. This was the N/S ridge anchored in the south by Hawk Peak, but we had no idea of our position on that ridge. Low visibility is the pits.



Since neither of us considered making a descent into either valley from an unknown point on the ridge a very smart idea, we chose to remain on the ridge and wait for the clouds to rise so we could locate ourselves. In the interim we would continue our search for the elusive route down.



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We reversed course hoping our luck and the visibility would improve. Just in case, we agreed to go no further east than the original position where I believed the descent to Silver Lake began. At least this would keep us in close proximity to what we were searching for if our luck didn't improve. We weren't overly confused, we just couldn't find the darn route down. After some time, out of the fog appeared our declared eastern boundary. We had missed again.

We reversed our travel again hoping for a break in the fog. Some time later Bill declared that he recognized the ridge we were currently traveling. Out came the navigation gear once more and, sure enough, we had struck out again. Our position was somewhere on the N/S ridge at about 6300 feet. Luck and visibility were both at a minimum.

It was 1900 hours now and we decided we had had enough. We found a friendly fir tree that had blown down and would provide some shelter and wood for a fire if needed. Bivouac time.

We inventoried our assets and between us we had about 12 ounces of liquid and two power bars, plus whatever extra clothing or equipment each of us had brought. Neither of us had any to spare and both of us had some gaps in our inventory.

Out came my long underwear, dry socks, pile jacket and Gortex rain gear. With these items were a wool hat and gloves and a lightweight space blanket. Using my seat pad and pack for ground cover, I expected a reasonably comfortable night. I considered the rocky bed angled at about 10 degrees as only a minor inconvenience.

We were both awake until about midnight and there was no improvement in the visibility. During this time my nice warm feet became cold and I removed my boots for a check. My socks were soaked. They had absorbed water from the boot lining - mistake number one. I removed my boots and placed my feet in a large plastic bag to my knees. They were colder in there than in the boots, so the boots went back on.

While adjusting the boots I had shifted my space blanket from under me to over me and, in the process of settling in, had pretty much destroyed it - mistake number two. I fell asleep then, cold feet and all. I awoke about 0330 with my cold feet and no space blanket, causing me to chill all over.

I had to get up and move around to get warm and Bill joined me as we both wanted to be ready at first light. He built a small fire and we breakfasted on about three ounces of liquid each and a power bar. Bill declined his portion of the power bar, so I pigged out.

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- Bivouac Continued from Page 8 -

After breakfast we hovered around the fire and dried my wet socks. That very small fire sure felt good all over. About the time I finished my morning exercises with the boots and socks, Bill looked over the ridge to the west and said there was a big valley down below.

A quick check with the binoculars located Tull City. How about that? We were right all along. We weren't lost, just a little confused.

In short order we packed up and found a new way off that ridge, straight down 1200 feet. We started down at 0530 and checked in with home base at 0930 from Discovery Bay. Needless to say, we found a couple of nervous people anxious to hear from us. Next stop was the Chimacum Cafe where we inhaled an "everything-on-it" omelet with hash brown potatoes and lots of coffee.

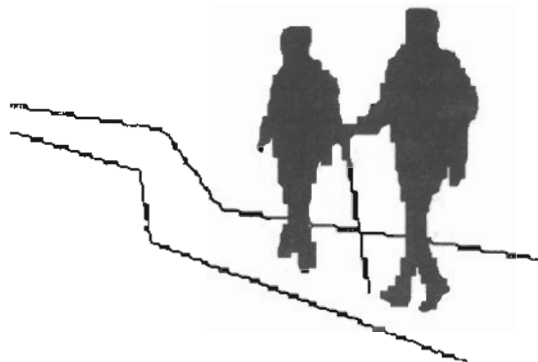
A perfect end to a great hike with a good friend. Some minor adjustments to my bivy gear and I'll be ready to go again. No more mistakes.



Tubal Cain/Tull Canyon

by Cheryl Gudger

On Saturday, August 26th six PWC members met at Hood Canal Bridge to spend a weekend at Tubal Cain/Tull Canyon in the Olympics. We drove to Sequim for breakfast at the Oak Table. We joined the group of PWCers doing a day hike to Marmot Pass.



After an outstanding, filling breakfast we proceeded to the Tubal Cain trailhead. We carried overnight packs three miles to the camp area. There we quickly set camp and hiked further on the Tubal Cain Trail. Some of us continued on to Buckhorn Lake and Buckhorn Pass. The evening was spent with campfire and comradery.

On Sunday we hiked to Tull Canyon, where we explored the airplane wreckage and the remains of Tull City. We hiked further into Tull Canyon and by late afternoon returned to the trailhead. We stopped at the infamous Fat Smitty's for Fat Smitty burgers. A big thank you to Doug Savage for organizing this event.

Mailing/Telephone Lists



Up-dated mail and telephone lists are available for pick up at the October meeting.

The mailing lists not claimed by the end of the meeting will be posted and mailed.

Several people have expressed that some members were not on the up-dated lists. The list is generated from the computer

database used for mailing the newsletter. When a membership becomes due, newsletters with renewal notices continue to arrive for several months beyond the expiration. If memberships continue to go un-renewed, the names are eventually dropped from the database.

These were unfortunate exclusions that can be avoided in the future by ensuring that your membership is current. Thanks for your vigilance.

Club Officers

President.....Dan Kirschbaum.....698-3684
Vice Pres.....Harry Wilson.....479-1322
Secretary.....Pat Kirschbaum.....698-3684
Treasurer.....Kevin Kilbridge.....871-2537

Miscellaneous Staff

Editor.....Teresa Miller.....373-6781
Assemblers...Kimmel....Guttormson/Grunigen
Entertainment....Joe Weigel.....871-0291
Refreshments.... Tony Abruzzo.....871-5754

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