

# PENNSWILE

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.

## August 1996

### *Monday Meeting*

**August 12th**

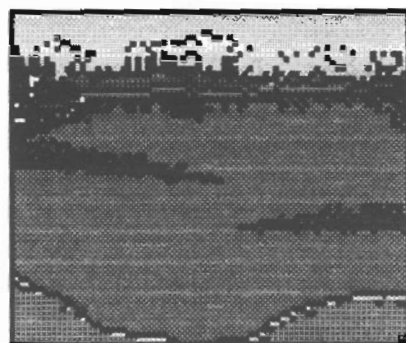
### **Washington Wilderness Coalition**

Matt Lincecum, representing the Washington Wilderness Coalition (WCC), will present a slide program focusing on hiking in the state's roadless areas. The WCC began in 1979. The organization's objective is to preserve Washington's remaining roadless areas now, and protecting them with Wilderness designation from future development.

Matt will be discussing the location and ecology of specific roadless areas in Washington. He'll tell how to access these areas so individuals can experience their beauty and riches firsthand. He'll discuss biology concepts and forest ecology as they relate to the healthy ecosystems all life depends on and much more.

### **Lake of the Angels**

AUGUST 9th through 11th; Enjoy three blissful days at heavenly Lake of the Angels. The trail to this splendid and serene lake is 3.8 miles of fairly steep grade. But, the reward is magnificent. Contact John Knott at 792-2440 for more information.



### **Mt. Jupiter**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10th; The summit of Mt. Jupiter is 7.1 miles and 3600 feet up from the trailhead. This somewhat strenuous hike awards hikers with views of the Brothers, Mt. Constance, the Duckabush Valley and spectacular vistas of the upper ridge of Hood Canal, Mt. Rainier and the Cascades. Call Steve Vittori at 377-1869 for more details.

## **Reverse Press Party Expedition**

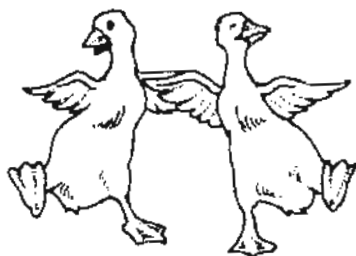
AUGUST 11th thru 19th; Join Dave Cossa as he tags along with the Olympic Park Institute Press Party Trip for three days. The Press Party was a group of five men that accomplished the first crossing of the Olympic Mountains between mid-December 1889 and May 29, 1890. They left Port Angeles, trekking up the Elwha River Basin and out the Quinalt.

At Chicago Camp on the Elwha, Dave will leave the Park Institute's group and follow the original Press Party route in reverse, down the Goldie River to the Elwha. The primary objective will be to find the artifacts the original Press Party was forced to cache during their expedition.

You must be a hard-core backpacker for this adventure. Call Dave at 871-5577.

## **Theler Wetlands**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th; Spend a leisurely afternoon strolling the boardwalks and pathways of Theler Wetlands along Hood Canal near Belfair. The Wetlands provide several miles of flat trails through scenic marshes and meadows. There'll be plenty of waterfowl and possibly some sealife to entertain and enjoy. This trip is suitable for everyone in the family. Call Cheryl Gudger at 876-3035 to confirm the 1:00 pm starting time.



## **Mt. Tahoma Maintenance**

WEEKEND of AUGUST 17th and 18th; If you've enjoyed the backcountry comforts of a Mt. Tahoma Trails Association Ski Hut, consider joining Tony Abruzzo for a weekend of maintenance on them. The trails will be worked on and the cabins will be repaired and stocked. Volunteers are welcome to spend Saturday night in the cabin and enjoy a day of play (mountain biking or hiking) on Sunday.

Call Tony Abruzzo at 871-5754 for details. The party will leave from the Mullenix Park-n-Ride at 7:30 am Saturday. Those who can only stay for Saturday are welcome too.



## **Mt. Baldy**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18th; Mt. Baldy provides tremendous views of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the San Juan Islands, Mt. Baker, Blue Mountain, Klahhane Ride and Mt. Angeles. The hike can be accomplished one way with a car swap providing bridges are open. Otherwise, ascent will be made via the Maynard Burn Way Trail. Call Doug Savage at 698-9774 or Joe Weigel at 871-0291 for more information.

## High Rock Lookout

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th; The view from High Rock Lookout on a clear day is unsurpassed. Mt. Rainier looms to the north; Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens expand to the west and south; even Mt. Hood can be spotted from the top of this impressive rock. The three mile round trip hike gains 1400 feet of elevation. The short distance means slower hikers can take their time and enjoy the relaxed climb. Call Ted Wiles at 876-5718.

## Mt. Ellinor

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th; Explore a semi-virgin forest of tall pines and fallen firs, while late summer flora delights and enchants you. This and much more can be yours when you join Mert and Dawn and the gang on this cacade of comradery. Call Paul (Mert) Mertel at (360)297-7715 or Dawn Parshall at (206)884-5410.

## Pyramid Mtn

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st; Located on the north side of Lake Crescent, Pyramid Mountain provides an outstanding vista of Mt. Storm King, Barnes Creek, Aurora Ridge, as well as the pristine waters below. The trail is 3.5 miles (one way) and gains 2400 feet of elevation. It is a steady uphill climb, but an excellent day hike for almost anyone. Contact Steve Vittori at 377-1869.

### New Hikers:

Remember to check with your trip organizer if you are new to outdoor sports or unsure of the terrain. They can tell you what to wear and bring along to keep yourself safe and comfortable!

## Overnight Bike Tour

SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER; Mert is looking for members interested in an overngiht stay on the beach at Fort Warden via bike, during the latter part of September or early October. Give him a call at (360)297-7715.



## Rock Climbing at Green Mountain

EVERY TUESDAY; Tony Abruzzo and John Styczynski are organizing rock climbing every Tuesday evening at nearby Green Mountain. Climbers should bring their own gear. Rock shoes are not required; regular hiking boots will suffice. Climbers will meet at 4:00 pm at the Red Apple Market on Kitsap Way. Call Tony at 871-5754 or John at 698-2790 for more information.



# Around Mt. St. Helens

## by Alice Savage

Friday, July 5th, Doug, Venita, Dan, Patty, Scott, Nancy, Dave C. and I met at Climbers' Bivouac for the 32 mile trek around Mt. St. Helens. A mile up the trail, we turned right at a junction and headed counterclockwise on the Loowit Trail around the mountain. It led off through the trees, many which had fallen causing us to scramble up and over or around

The weather was perfect as we walked through the forest with its green carpet sprinkled with avalanche lilies. Coming into the open, Mt. Hood sparkled in the distance in the morning sun. Later, as we headed around the southeast flank of the mountain, Mt. Adams dominated the horizon.

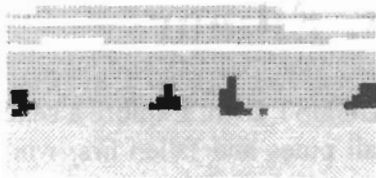


In places the flowers were incredible, deep pink penstemon, vast areas of pink and cream heather, phlox, indian paintbrush and everyone's favorite, the purple-blue lupine.

We came to an area of sun-bleached logs where the blast laid the trees down like matchsticks. The forest is certainly coming back; young trees had popped up everywhere.

The trail was well marked with poles or sticks with ribbons stuck in the ground. In some places ribbons were simply tied around rocks or rock cairns marked the way. Sometimes we lost the trail but it was easily found again.

We experienced every type of terrain you can imagine, rocks to scramble over, hot desert sand, deep rocky canyons, occasional streams and mud flows.



The mud flows were the hardest to maneuver as the steep dirt banks on each

side were a challenge to get up and down. There was very little footing since the dirt constantly filtered into the steps we tried to follow. At times these mud flows seemed endless. It made for slow going.

After 11 miles and 10 hours of hiking we came to a stream where we set up camp. The wind was quite fierce but thankfully it died down later. After supper, Dave got a bonfire going and out popped the ingredients to make "s'mores".

The second day we headed into the Plains of Abraham, a vast open area of sand and rock. It was amazing to see the lovely clumps of penstemon blooming in this wasteland. Again we had the steep walls of mud flows to contend with.

Now on the north side in front of the blast zone, we came upon Loowit Falls. A long thin falls, it tumbles over a cliff about a quarter mile off the trail, but is easily seen for some distance. Some of our group hiked out to the falls but most of us decided it was good chance to rest. The sun was hot but a good breeze kept us quite comfortable.

*(continued on page 5)*



# August PWC Calendar of Events

1996



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Olympic Trek Rockies	2 Olympic Trek Rockies	3 Olympic Trek Rockies
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Olympic Trek		Rock Climbing (p3)			Lake of Angels (p1)	Mt. Jupiter (p1) Lake of Angels (p1)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Reverse Press (p2) Lake of Angels (p1)	Reverse Press (p2) <b>Monday Meeting</b>	Rock Climbing (p3) Reverse Press (p2)	Reverse Press (p2)	Reverse Press (p2) <b>Interested Members (p8)</b>	Reverse Press (p2)	Mt. Tahoma (p2) Reverse Press (p2)
18 Theler (p2) Mt. Baldy (p2) Mt. Tahoma (p2) Reverse Press (p2)	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Reverse Press (p2)	Rock Climbing (p3)		<b>POTLUCK1 (p8)</b>	Mt. Ellinor (p3) High Rock (p3)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Rock Climbing (p3)				



# September PWC Calendar of Events

1996



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Interested  
Members Meeting

Monday Meeting

Pyramid Mtn (p3)

*(continued from page 4)*

We were directly in front of the blast area but were unable to see the lava dome as we were too close and small hills blocked the view. Spirit Lake could be seen to the north with its mass of logs jammed into one corner. Someone spotted the visitors' center at Windy Ridge and also Coldwater Ridge.

The second day proved to be the longest, covering 12 miles in 11 hours. Our destination was the South Fork of the Toutle River. Here the water was muddy and unsuitable to use so we crossed the river. After a tough dirt bank to climb we came across a small clear stream with a nice flat spot nearby to camp. We were a tired bunch with hurting feet.

Dave again collected wood and got a fire going. As we sat around the fire, Nancy had us thinking up songs to sing using the word "Toutle". "Toutling down the river on a Sunday afternoon" was one rendition offered. These frivolous moments were welcome and made us forget our sore feet. Nancy also had some sparklers hidden in her pack, so we had fun celebrating the 4th on the 6th.



Our third day was 9 miles, the shortest but the hardest stretch. We were in more hilly country, still with mud flows plus a lot of rock hopping. It was hot with no breeze. Now on the west side of the mountain, we were again in an area of downed trees and crossed what is called Eruption Impact Line. Here downed trees cover one side and growing trees blanket the other. We had crossed the opposite end of this line on the east side of the mountain.

When we reached the junction for the mile hike out to the Climbers' Bivouac, we had completed the circle around Mt. St. Helens and our feet certainly felt it.

We started the trip with 8 people but came out with 9. Chris Hildebrand joined us the last morning. Friday about 8 pm he started up the trail, missed the junction and climbed halfway up the mountain, camping at about 6500 feet. The next day he hiked 14 hours trying to catch us and camped just before crossing the Toutle. Sunday morning he crossed the river and caught up with us as we were climbing the ridge above the Toutle. Chris you are an animal! Whew! It makes me tired just writing about it.

Of course the cars were like ovens when we reached them. After airing them a bit, we headed to the reservoir where some of the group went swimming. The rest of us took advantage of a free shower in a nearby bathhouse. It felt wonderful. Then we all went to Jack's restaurant for big luscious hamburgers and thick milkshakes.

Now that we were rested and fed, a lot of kidding went on. Our optimistic trip leader, Doug decided the hike was a "piece of cake; we'll just do it in one day next time. Anybody interested?" Maybe the hot sun affected him. Doug figured our total elevation again for the hike was about 7000 feet. That was a lot of ups and downs. I would rate this trip "Brutal but Beautiful". It was awesome out there but is not for the faint-hearted. In spite of sore feet I wouldn't have missed it for anything. Thanks Doug.

By the way, Nancy later told me, when your hiking in this area and nature calls, you inform your companions your going to the "Toutle Lou".

### Officers & Staff

President: Steve Vittori	377-1869
Vice Pres: Venita Goodrich	698-9774
Secretary: Lyn Lund	377-7067
Treasurer: Kevin Kilbridge	871-2537
Editor: Teresa Miller	895-8769
Entertainment: Joe Weigel	871-0291
Assembling: Joyce Kimunel	
Refreshments: Tony Abruzzo	871-5754
Clean-Up: Diana Cripe	895-4299
New Members: Bert Cripe	895-4299

## CLUB BUSINESS:

### Interested Members Meeting:

**August 15th (Thurs), 7:00 pm** at Hildegard Stone's home. We'll discuss club business and upcoming events in a casual and social atmosphere. Call Hildegard at **692-5984** for directions.

### New Members in July:

Teresa Farr  
Ann Mecklenburg  
Michael O'Parka  
Patti Wilken

### To Change Your Address:

Notify **Jim Luddon** at 165 NW Alta Drive; Bremerton, WA 98310. Or, change your address at the time you pay your annual dues.

## Editor's Address Changes!

Newsletter Contributions: Send articles, trip reports, interviews, announcements, etc to: **Teresa Miller**, 4130 Harris Ave. SE, Pt. Orchard, WA 98366; Or, phone 895-8769.

### EARLY DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER'S NEWSLETTER

Please have all items in for publication by **August 13th**, due to vacation plans!

## Potluck!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23rd; Cheryl Gudger will be hosting a potluck at her home in Port Orchard. Join an evening of fun and terrific food. New members will find this an especially easy forum in which to get acquainted. Call Cheryl at 876-3035.



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Peninsula Wilderness Club  
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Bremerton, WA 98337-0070

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