

PENWICKLE

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.

December 1998

Monday Meeting

December 14th

Climbing Aconcagua

Join us this month for a slide show by Stacy Moon covering his successful ascent of the highest peak in the Western Hemisphere, Aconcagua (~22,834 feet) located in South America. His party consisted of 4 climbers and took eighteen days to complete the ascent via the Polish Glacier route.

Stacy has been climbing for over nine years and has climbed many peaks in the Cascade, Sierra Nevada, and Rocky Mountain Ranges and Canada.

Wintertest is Coming!

Wintertest (c. 1989) a time of celebration marked by special observances, held over the President's Day weekend by members of the PWC. Usually marked by gaiety and conviviality and skiing, snowshoeing, and sometimes hiking.

This winter the event (February 12th-15th) will be held at Rainier Overland Lodge near Ashford on the road to Mt. Rainier National Park. The Lodge consists of seven rooms, three specialty rooms, and two cabins—all non-smoking. It can accommodate 30 people with more accommodations available next door at the Nisqually Lodge.

(Continued on page 4)

Visit **PENWICKLE** on the web: <http://kendaco.telebyte.com/~bcripe/>

December Activities

ANOTHER DON PAULSON SHOW

Friday, December 4th, 5 to 9pm

Contact: Don Paulson (830-2212)

"The Intimate Landscape", Photographs by Don Paulson, with a written narrative by Larry Smith. Don would like to invite PWC'rs to see some of his latest images, at the Artists' Edge 2009 Harkins Street, Bremerton East end of the Manette Bridge (360) 377-2930 Opening Reception Friday, December 4th, with live music by "Takes Two" and Hors d'oeuvres. The show will be on display through December 31st. Gallery hours: Tues-Fri 10-5, Sat. 10-3.

HAMMA HAMMA POT POURRI

Saturday, December 5th

Contact: Russ Childers (871-3331)

Russ will be doing three short, easy hikes including:

1. Paul W. Tirnell Memorial Trail about 1/2 mile to a beaver pond.
2. A loop hike along an abandoned road and the lower portion of the Putuin Trail, ~3-4 miles and...
3. One or two segments of the Elk Lake Trail about 1-2 miles in length.

SNOWSHOEING AT MT. RAINIER

Saturday, December 12th

Contact: Steve Vittori (377-1869)

Steve will lead a snowshoe trip somewhere within the park-location to be determined, but suitable for all abilities.



FORT STEVENS STATE PARK CAR CAMPING TRIP

Friday - Sunday, December, 18th - 20th

Contact: Chris Hildebrand (895-0311)

Chris is leading another car camping expedition, this time to sales tax free Oregon! Just in time for winter beach combing and holiday shopping. Located near Astoria and Costco, Ft. Stevens should prove a winner with the ship wreck of the *Peter Iredale* to ponder and the Astor Column to look up to.

Upcoming Activities

WHISTLER SKI TRIP

January 3rd - 6th or 17th - 20th

Contact: Tom Banks (697-7708)

Tom is organizing a ski trip to Whistler in January and hopes to get a group of people to share the cost of lodging. Call Tom for details.

MTTA "SNOW LUNACY '99"

Saturday, January 9th

Contact: Tony Abruzzo (377-5103)

This 9 mile fairly level traverse from the 92 road snow park to the 59 road snow park will be fully supported with a warm fire and refreshments at Copper Creek Hut, and ski patrols along the route.

Transportation will be provided from the Overland Restaurant in Ashford to the 92 road snow park with pick up at the 59 road snow park and return to the restaurant for a hearty bowl of "Stew-in-a-Bread Bowl".

This ski trip is suitable for all levels of skiers and a great warm-up for those hearty souls who are thinking of doing the Hög Loppet in February.

There is a \$25 charge to help cover the cost of the transportation, your very own memorable T-shirt, snacks at the hut, and your "Stew-in-a-Bread Bowl" at the Overlander. To register before the 9th contact Tony or the MTTA office at (360) 569-2451 any weekend from 9am to 4pm.

MTTA SKI HUT OUTINGS

The dates and number of slots for this winter's hut trips are:

January 23rd — Copper Creek (12) - Beginner level trip

February 27th — Snow Bowl (8) - Intermediate level trip

March 20th — High Hut (8) - Intermediate level trip

(Continued on page 3)

Upcoming Activities

(Continued from page 2) MTTA Hut Outings

The Mt. Tahoma Ski Huts are equipped with bunks, appliances, and wood. Skiers bring their own sleeping bags, clothes, and food.

A drawing will be held at the December PWC meeting to determine who gets to go on these trips. Members will put their name and choice of dates (1st & 2nd choices) in the bowl before the meeting. Tony Abruzzo will pull 28 names out to fill the vacancies. One entry per member or family is allowed, but that entry can represent your spouse/partner as well. This will decrease the possibility that partners are split up.

Participants MUST submit a \$25 refundable deposit check (made payable to 'PWC') at the January meeting. Spots not secured by a deposit at that time will be immediately offered to an alternate. Deposit checks are returned if all reserved spots are filled on the trip. If you can not attend the December meeting call Tony to have your name put in the drawing. Contact Tony at 377-5103 for answers to your questions.

WHITEFISH SKI EXTRAVAGANZA

March 3rd through March 8th, 1999

Contact: Pat Gleason (373-2131)

NOTE: Payment in full is due at the January 11th meeting.

PAT GLEASON is organizing a 1999 Whitefish ski outing. PWCers will catch the Amtrak in the early evening of March 3rd at Edmonds and travel via sleeper car to beautiful Whitefish, Montana. The package includes three nights accommodations at the newly remodeled AlpenGlow Motel. Skiers can enjoy four days on the slopes, boarding for the return trip the evening of March 7th. Three days lift tickets and transportation to and from the train depot are included. Big Mountain has recently lit their cross-country course, so skiers can enjoy gliding through the winter wonderland along moonlit trails.

THE price is \$361 per person (based on four person occupancy and 25 participants), \$386 per person (based on four person occupancy but less than 25 participants). For those not requiring lift tickets, deduct \$105 from the price.

THIS has been a very popular outing in the past, with PWCers giving rave reviews to the quality winter recreation and telling tall tales of the fun and camaraderie on the train and on the slopes.



CROSS COUNTRY SKIING IN YELLOWSTONE

February 28th to March 4th, 1999

Contact: Alice Savage (638-2597)

For this five day package, a snow coach will pick us up at West Yellowstone and transfer us to Canyons Skiers Yurt Camp situated in the middle of Yellowstone Park, a quiet and peaceful setting with no crowds.



The camp consists of two yurts, which serve as the kitchen, dining, and social center, and is surrounded by six, two person tent cabins heated with propane. The outhouse is heated (are you listening Don Paulson) and there is a sauna. Hot water will be provided for showers.

Cost is \$688.25 per person, which includes all meals, lodging with bedding, ski guides, and use of the snow coach to take us to remote areas for skiing. I plan on driving to West Yellowstone but one can fly to Bozeman, Montana where convenient bus service will take you to West Yellowstone.

Some of the animals we can expect to see are bison, elk herds, trumpeter swans, coyotes, and possibly a fox or two. There will be a full moon at this time that will offer lovely night skiing.

After the yurt camp, we plan to spend a night at Old Faithful Snow Lodge to ski and check out the more concentrated thermal activity surrounded by snow.

Call Alice about making reservations. If six or more go we get a 10% discount. The camp holds twelve people, if nine go in a group, we get the camp to ourselves. We need to get going on this and make reservations in November.



Announcements & Notices

NEED MAPS?

David Cossa will be in Denver during the Christmas vacation and plans to visit the US Geological Survey's map building at the Denver Federal Center. Anyone wishing to have David purchase maps may call him at 871-5577.

SKI-TO-SEA TEAM TO BE FORMED

Tom Banks is seeking people to form a team for next year's event to be held over the Memorial Day weekend. Team members participate in downhill and cross country skiing, mountain and road biking, running, kayaking, and canoeing. Contact Tom at 697-7708 for more information.

(Continued from page 1) Winterfest

Room rates vary from \$50 to \$70 with the cabins going for a little more. The cabins have kitchens, full baths, and wood/pellet stoves.

None of the rooms have been booked by the club—we are all on our own to make reservations. The Lodge management is aware of our choice of the facility for our event and is anticipating your calls.

Reservations should be made as soon as possible by calling the Lodge at (360) 569-0851. They accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover Card and require 48 hours notice to cancel a reservation, should that be necessary.

The facility's restaurant can be opened for our use if we make prior arrangement. A special menu will be available for dinners on Saturday and Sunday nights. Breakfast will be buffet style. More on the menus later when the information is made available to us.

For those new members and others who may have forgotten, Winterfest is a time to celebrate the beauty of the chilly, dark season by getting out into the snow to ski, snowshoe, and just play. Additionally, we gather in the evenings around the fire to relate our tales of the day's activities, get acquainted with new faces, and just have a good time. To make this possible, the dining room will be available for our use. Many bring hors d'oeuvres and wine or beer to share in the evening with friends.

Rainier Overland Lodge is located in the heart of the Mount Tahoma Trails system (the office is at the lodge) and Mt. Rainier National Park is just a few miles to the east. If you would like to try snowshoeing this would be a good opportunity to borrow a pair from another member, since many folks bring skis and snowshoes.



telemark skis, foam core.

Call Rick Randall at 598-6385

2 PAIR FREE SKIIS:

Fischer E99 ST Tour 210cm x 65mm wide double camber, waxable backcountry touring skis, wood core Karhu XCD Comp 195cm x 63mm wide single camber waxable older



SKI RACK

A gutter mount ski rack. Locks to the gutter and locks skis also. \$30.00 Call Joe Weigel at 871-0291

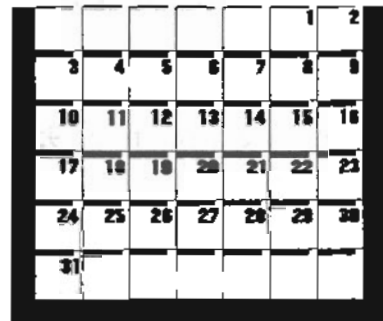
LOST

The top to a stainless steel camp pot at the June cookoff. If you have knowledge of its whereabouts, please call Chris Hildebrand at 895-0311.

DECEMBER

PENWICKE

SCHEDULE PAGE

JANUARY

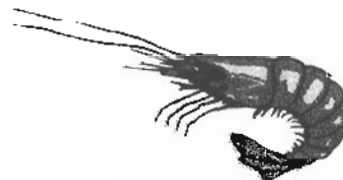
Date	Trip	Point of Contact	Page
Dec. 4th	Photography Show	Don Paulson (830-2212)	2
Dec. 5th	Hamma Hamma day hikes	Russ Childers (871-3331)	2
Dec. 12th	Snowshoeing at Mt. Rainier	Steve Vittori (377-1869)	2
Dec. 18 - 20th	Ft. Stevens car camping	Chris Hildebrand (895-0311)	2
Jan.	Whistler Ski trip	Tom Banks (697-7708)	2
Jan. 9th	MTTA Snow Lunacy '99	Tony Abruzzo (377-5103)	2
Jan. 23 rd	MTTA Hut Ski trips	Tony Abruzzo (377-5103)	2
Feb. 28th - Mar 4th	Cross County Skiing in Yellowstone	Alice Savage (638-2597)	3
Mar. 3rd - 8th	Whitefish Ski Extravaganza	Pat Gleason (373-2131)	3

RECIPE OF THE MONTH:

Spicy Shrimp & Couscous

by Venita Goodrich & Doug Savage

- 1 - 4 1/4 oz. can of peeled shrimp
- 1 package Thai Accents Peanut Sauce
- 1/2 C raisins
- 1/2 C peanuts or cashews
- 1 1/2 C couscous



Mix first 4 ingredients in 2 cups water. Bring to a boil.
Add couscous. Let stand for 3 to 5 minutes. Serve.

Newsletter Folding...

A small group of PWCers meet to prepare the newsletter for mailing. Call Teresa Sayers at 895-8769 for specific location and time if you would like to help.

Recent New Members

The PWC welcomes the following new members: Brett Allen, John Berg, Laurie Dawson, Karen Grzybowski, Beth Harter & John Willett, Jessica Klinkert, Alan Searle, and Grant Winther.

Officers & Staff

President:	Tom Banks	697-7708
Vice Pres:	Deborah Legg	478-2829
Secretary:	Kathy Weigel	871-0291
Treasurer:	Kevin Kilbridge	871-2537
Entertainment:	Joe Weigel	871-0291
Refreshments:	Dawn Vokali	377-5103
Clean-Up:	Diana Cripe	895-4299
New Members:	Bert Cripe	895-4299
Scrap Book:	Kathy Ryan	876-9672
Penwicle:		
Editor	Bert Cripe	895-4299
Assembling:	Joyce Kimmel	876-1497
	Teresa Sayers	895-8769

Last Month's Door Prize: Jeff Mercer won the November door prize, a stainless steel vacuum bottle. The monthly door prize is donated by Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe. All members can enter at the Monday night meeting.

MEETINGS

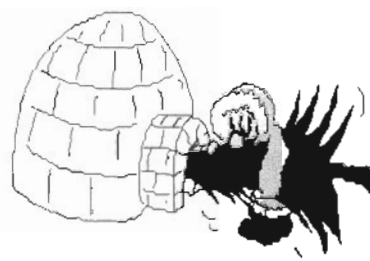
Interested Members Meeting:

Thursday, Dec. 17th, 7:00 p.m.

Laura & Ron Croft will host this month's Interested Members Meeting at their home in Poulsbo. Combine socializing with club business and trip planning. This is a great chance to get to know members one-on-one. Call Laura or Ron at 779-6250 for directions. Please carpool as much as possible.

Potluck Social:

None due to the holidays



PWC Climbers Group

An informal gathering of climbers will meet on Monday, November 30th at 6:30 pm at the Silvercity Brewing Company in Silverdale. All are welcome to join us for general socializing and discussions about past and future mountaineering excursions. For directions, call Tom Banks at 697-7708. For a list of climbers, send an e-mail to Jim Morrison at: jmorrison@telisphere.com or phone 638-2705.

Announcements & Notices

THE ELEVENTH ESSENTIAL?

By Jim Morrison

THERE is an old joke in Alaska that goes like this. The first hiker asks the second, "how do you tell a black bear from a grizzly? The second hiker answers, "If you see a bear climb a tree. If the bear comes up after you it is a black bear, but if he shakes you out of the tree, then it is a grizzly!"

OF COURSE in the interior of Alaska it is very unlikely you can find a tree much taller than the bear so climbing a tree isn't really often an option.

I THINK Wendy McClure's article ("Essentials" November *Penwicle*) brings up an interesting topic. I would like comment on the question of gun toting in the woods. First of all, why carry a gun in the woods? I assume the reason is self-defense. In the case of the person with stock they might also think they could protect the stock against attack. I also believe (perhaps wrongly) that many people with stock identify with an earlier time in our history when it was common to carry guns.

IT SEEMS to me that the only large carnivores or omnivores in western Washington that might pose a threat are the cougar and black bear. I know of only a few cases where a cougar has attacked a human in California and that was a small child who was alone. And although there is a healthy black bear population in Washington, I know of no human fatalities from bear attacks. In spite of their reputation black bears eat mostly plants and insects.

HOWEVER, In Alaska there are fatalities every year. That is distinctly different than Washington. For what it is worth, here is my experience and opinion regarding toting a weapon. When I first started hiking and backpacking in Alaska I carried a large caliber handgun on my hip for a short time. Later I decided to leave it at home. There is no stigma about carrying a gun in Alaska. In fact on at least one Forest Service Map it is recommended that you carry nothing less than a 30-06 rifle! In Alaska, where bears can be a danger, I have no objection to someone carrying a gun, but here are some of the reasons I decided not to. People who hunt bear will tell you that even the largest handgun is inadequate to stop a large bear with any certainty. An inexperienced hunter is more likely to wound the animal. If I shot a bear making a false charge (I was told false charges are not uncommon) I would only exacerbate my predicament and could destroy the animal unnecessarily. Guns and ammo are very heavy and I hate carrying unnecessary weight. Safety is an issue when loaded guns are present. It is often unlawful to carry or transport a concealed weapon without a special permit and it is always unlawful to carry a gun in the National Parks.

Put simply, By following all the prescribed precautions it is possible to be in bear country and be safe (probably even safer) without a gun.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Do you have some great photos of the Theler Wetlands at home? Are you ready to take some great photos of the Theler Wetlands in the next 7 months?

HERE's your chance: Theler Community Center and the Hood Canal Watershed Project Center are pleased to announce the first annual Children's Environmental Fair Photography Contest which will be open to children and adults, amateurs and professionals. Photos will be judged on originality and composition, and **MUST BE TAKEN AT THE THELER WETLANDS**. The categories are:

Youth: color, black and white

Amateur: color, black and white

Professional: color, black and white

PHOTOS must be no smaller than 5"x 7" and no larger than 11"x 14", and must be matted. No frames are allowed. Entries will be displayed in the Theler Community Center during the Children's Environmental Fair on Saturday, June 10, 1999. The deadline for entries is June 30, 1999. Drop off your entries at the Theler Community Center in Belfair starting Monday, April 26, 1999.

LIMIT of three entries per person. Prizes for each category will be awarded at the end of the Fair. Winning entries will not be returned after the contest.

Questions? Contact: Hood Canal Watershed Project

hcwater@hctc.com

<http://www.hctc.com/~hcwater>

(360) 275-0373 or 275-0721

(360) 275-0648 (fax)

Trip Reports

CLIMBING IN SWITZERLAND, JULY 1998

by Brian Stealy

July 12 / Kapellenweg Campground, Saas Grund

It is evening and we have just unpacked the car and set up camp. As we fire up the stove to cook our dinner I can't help but crane my neck up to stare at an incredible array of peaks surrounding us. Saas Grund lies at the south end of a valley south of Visp, which is in the south-east part of Switzerland. I am here with my British friend and sometime climbing partner, Kevin Gibbons. I am also here because he called my bluff. A couple years ago while on a climb with him I made the mistake of verbalizing a fantasy of climbing the Matterhorn to celebrate my 50th year. The year of reck-

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Announcements & Notices & Trip Reports

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Steve Vittori

As my terms end, I'd like a few square inches of Penwile to say how much fun I've had being president. I wrote this two years ago, but it's as true now as it was then.

My job as president has really been quite easy, thanks to many people who never or rarely took the stage. They made sure that entertainment was arranged, newsletters were written, trails were cleared, rugs were vacuumed, punch was drunk, bills were paid, scrapbooks were scrapped, and cars were pooled. Speaking of punch drunk, thanks to the audiences who endured my sense of humor, and particularly to the person who laughed at my joke at the May 1997 meeting. I know your name, but won't reveal it, in order to preserve your reputation. Meanwhile, I will continue to pursue the perfect one-liner, in hopes of finding a mediocre one at least.

THANKS are due to the Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for the use of their facility, which suits our needs so well. Thanks also go to the people who twenty years ago created the club that we enjoy today. Thanks to the businesses who offered services and discounts to the members, and to the speakers who informed and amused us. And to anyone who participated in even a single meeting or outing, your enthusiasm made the job worthwhile.

If a certain public radio personality visited our domain, he might say it's a land where the mountains are strong, the trees good-looking, and the trails above average. In this environment, I look forward to the next twenty years of the PWC.

(Continued from page 7) Switzerland

oning had come and he had called me on it. The Matterhorn is in an adjacent valley and we were in the Saas Fee area to practice. As we sit in our camp eating our dinner, Kevin points to our first target. A very large chunk of broken, snowless granite called the Mittaghorn.

July 13 / Mittaghorn

ALL climbs in the alps are early morning ascents and the Mittaghorn is no exception. The summit is 10,300 ft. and we are starting from our camp at 5,160 feet. The trail takes us through the picturesque village of Saas Fee above our camp. The brown timbered, white plaster exteriors of the buildings is redundant, but attractive. Their beauty is enhanced by the window boxes with the colorful flowers. Add to that the quaintness of the eiderdown quilts and pillows being aired out of the windows in the early morning sunshine. The only thing missing was Heidi yodeling out the

window. The village is a ski resort in the winter and like Zermatt, no cars are allowed.

We rejoin the trail at the end of the village and it takes us through a pine forest and on to the right side of the Mittaghorn massif. From there the trail takes a sharp left above the tree line and we ascend steeply as we start the traverse. With about 2000 feet to go we take out the rope and split the hardware. Technically, the Mittaghorn is not that difficult which allows us a fairly rapid ascent. The sun warmed us from the cool breeze that blew. Chamois (mountain sheep) lazily moved out of our way in front of us. It was a picture perfect climb and the views sparked a smile on us that nothing could erase.

By 2:00 PM we had reached the summit. You always know when you have summited in Switzerland because the Swiss have planted large, silver colored crucifixes on almost every peak. After congratulating ourselves and enjoying a brief snack and the views, we descended the other side of the peak. As can happen in the Alps, the weather was changing rapidly. Rain is bad enough but we were in an area that invites lightning.

By the time we reached the village we were totally "knackered" as the British say and decided to treat ourselves to a beer. It slowed our descent to camp but we managed to shower and walk to a nearby restaurant for dinner. A great, if not exhausting, day one.

July 14 & 15 / The Weissmies

We next decided to work on our snow and ice skills on the Weissmies. It is regarded as the most beautiful mountain in this part of the Alps and has a summit of 13,195 feet. Here you can cheat a little by taking the gondola to a point just forty-five minutes from the Weissmies hut (8,940 feet.).

In Switzerland, most climbing is done by taking advantage of their hut system. The quality and expense of the huts varies from place to place, but they allow you to climb without having to carry a tent, stove, sleeping bag or food. It is a luxury which considerably lightens your load. Most are attractive stone structures located part way up a range that allows more than one peak to be accessible. Sleeping accommodations are Spartan and unisex. They are really two long bunks, both upper and lower, the length of the room. Blankets and pillows mark out how many people sleep on each bunk. As far as the food goes, there is no menu choice. It comes under the heading, "chef's surprise". But you can be guaranteed that it will be filling and nourishing. It usually involves a soup of some kind, pasta or potatoes, meat, bread and some kind of dessert. Breakfasts were the standard European style that I never found satisfying. It was usually just bread, jam and tea. One hut did offer muesli and I was grateful. Most huts also had a small store where you

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Trip Reports

(Continued from page 8) Switzerland

could buy candybars, soda pop, beer and the like.

THE gondola ride was a treat and afforded sweeping views of the surrounding Alps. After a short walk we arrived at the hut by early afternoon and got ourselves settled in. Fortunately there were only two others bunking in our room and all of us were shooting for a 3:00 AM wake up call in order to summit while the snow was still firm. This is standard operating procedure for all climbing in the Alps. When the sun comes out, it not only can soften the snow, making climbing more difficult, it can destroy the snow bridges you use to get across the crevasses.

THREE AM came quickly and the whole hut became a hive of activity. No one talks at this hour. Climbers quietly prepare themselves for the climb, putting on the appropriate clothing and checking their gear. The staff of the hut quietly put the breakfast on the table. By 3:30 we are headed up the trail. Within an hour we have arrived at the top of another lift which had a room available for us to make a final gear check. As we headed up the moon was bright and lit up the mass of snow and ice we were about to conquer, giving it a surreal quality. If it were an art work, it would have been labeled more impressionist than representative in style. I felt energized and ready to roll. The first section is a boulder/ice field and route finding was a challenge. But once through it, we put on our crampons and roped up. The route up is almost a sideways horseshoe pattern but very straightforward. It winds its way through crevasse fields, over snow bridges, and toward the summit, up some rather steep ice. But it was a beautiful fairly clear morning and I would brand this as one of the sweetest climbs I've ever done. The summit was windy and cold, but once again the 360 degree panorama of the alpine peaks left me speechless. Besides the numerous Swiss peaks, we could see Mt. Blanc in France, Europe's tallest peak. We were very hungry at this point, but we chose to descend to a more protected area to eat due to the cold and wind. The views were still grand on the lower ledge and after a brief rest we began our trip back to the lodge. The sun was beginning to warm the snow but it was still firm enough to safely cross the ice bridges. By the time we reached the bottom of the peak, we were roasting and the snow was definitely soft. I marveled at the people who were still just starting the climb. It is no fun trudging up in soft snow and the danger level increases as well. When we reached the hut, we quickly packed the gear we had left behind and headed for the gondola. We were grateful for the ride as the added descent would have really pounded our knees. It enabled us to save our strength for the climbs ahead. Feeling fine but exhausted, we hiked through the village back to our campground and proceeded to cook a grand meal.

July 16 / Tasch

We say good-bye to our wonderful campground host and

drive around to the adjacent valley setting up our new camp in a village called Tasch (4,750 feet.). The hosts of this camp are no where near as friendly as our previous hosts and make it quite clear that they don't care if you camp there or not. They can afford to be rude. They are conveniently located near the train station that everyone must take to get to Zermatt (5,210 feet.). Since Zermatt does not allow driving into the town, everyone parks somewhere in Tasch and takes the train to get there. Zermatt is popular for a number of reasons. Most notably, it is the home of Switzerland's most recognized landmark, the Matterhorn. It is also where one goes to get access to numerous other peaks and hiking trails. The Monte Rosa, Switzerland's highest peak, is also located here.

OVER dinner in a local restaurant, we discuss doing the Zinalrothorn or the Triftthorn before attempting the Matterhorn. The plan is for us to take the train to Zermatt in the morning and then hike up to the Triftthorn hut, staying there for our climb.

July 17 / Triftthorn Hut

AFTER a good breakfast and some campstove espresso coffee, we pack our climbing gear and head for the train station. The trains run every twenty minutes and it is a short ride to Zermatt. As with most things Swiss, they are clean, comfortable and run on time. It is a nice way to enter Zermatt. To get to our trail you have to hike through part of the village and it takes you through the main street by all the shops and crowds of tourists. A cacophony of several languages spoken somewhat loudly shatters what otherwise could be a peaceful alpine setting. I have to confess I am really taken aback by it all. In spite of its magnificent setting, it is just too, too quaint and commercial. It appears that just banning cars is not sufficient.

To be continued — Editor



Newsletter Contributions or To Change your Address or Phone Number:

Send articles, trip reports, stories, announcements, etc & address and phone number changes to:

Bert Cripe, 2398 Jefferson Ave. SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366; e-mail; or phone 895-4299.

How to Join the PWC:

Membership is open to anyone interested in muscle-powered outdoor sports. Dues are \$18.00 per household per year. Send a check or money order to the return address shown below. PWC members get a 10% discount at Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe and at The Ajax Cafe.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ (Optional) Email Address: _____ (Optional)



Members' E-Mail List!

Members may submit their E-mail address to: bcripe@kendaco.telebyte.com and receive the latest e-mail list back with updates, as needed.

Peninsula Wilderness Club
P.O. Box 323
Bremerton, WA 98337-0070



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