

# PENINSULA

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.

## November 1999

*Monday Meeting*

*November 8th*

### *Enchanting Nature*

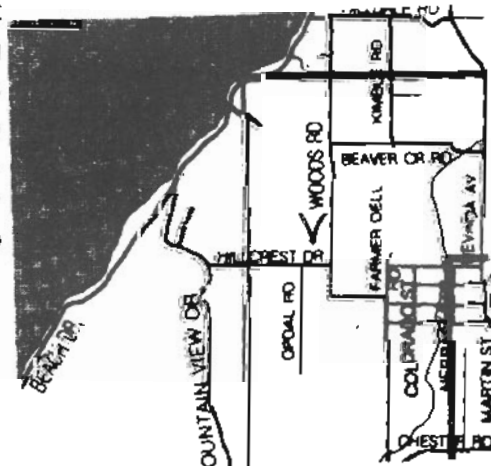
Enjoy an evening of nature photography with one of the PWC's charter members, Ron Sampson. Ron has been capturing delightful images of the outdoors for 25 years. The current cover of the Olympic Mountain Climbing Guide features one of Ron's published photos, Mt. Cruiser. His slide presentation explores four areas: comparisons of summer and winter images from the same location; water subjects; wildlife; and Yellowstone, Teton, and Glacier National Parks.

### HALLOWEEN

### PARTY & POTLUCK

Saturday October 30th - Have great, ghoulish fun at the annual PWC Halloween party and potluck. This evening of dinner, dancing, and costumes replaces the monthly potluck. The whole family will enjoy the fun at the Waterman Community Club near the intersection of Hillcrest Drive and Woods Road in Port Orchard. Last year's band, Filé Gumbo, will be back to provide musical entertainment. Call Kathy or Joe Weigel at 871-0291 to volunteer with party set-up.

Hors d'oeuvres 5:30  
Potluck dinner 6:00  
Dancing 6:30 - 10:30



## ***Upcoming Outings***

### **Pyramid Peak**

Saturday, November 6th

Contact: Doug Savage, 698-9774

This 3.5 mile trail climbs 2400 feet along the north side of Lake Crescent. You'll pass through virgin and second growth forests with a breathtaking summit view of the lake and the peaks beyond.

### **Beach Hike & Museum Outing**

Saturday, November 13th

Contact: Steve Vittori 377-1869

*Note the date change for this outing.* Spend the day stretching your legs and expanding your mind. Steve is planning an easy beach hike in the Pt Defiance area followed by a stop at the Washington State History Museum to take in the Mt. Rainier Exhibit. There is a \$7 admission fee for the museum.

### **Rock Climbing at Frenchman's Coulee**

Weekend of November 13th and 14th

Contact: Tom Banks, 697-7708

Experienced rock climbers will find lots to explore at Frenchman's Coulee (Vantage), 2 hours east of Seattle. Come out for one of the last weekends of climbing this season. Tom plans to make the drive on Friday after work and camp Friday and Saturday nights. Helmet, harness, and climbing shoes required.

### **Mt. Rose**

Saturday, November 20th

Contact: Scot Fourier, 698-3005

The trail is a relatively steady climb for 4.8 miles (3500 feet elevation gain) that rewards hikers with a splendid view of Lake Cushman below and Lightning Peak in the distance. The forest alternates between second and old growth trees.

### **Mt. Baker Ski**

November 25th through 27th

Contact: Jon DeArman, 697-1352

Give thanks for Mother Nature's gifts with a holiday weekend of skiing at Mt. Baker. Jon and his family are inviting PWCers to join them at the Mountaineers' Cabin there. It's \$16 a night for lodging and food.



### **Cross-Country Skiing at Reflection Lakes**

Saturday, December 11th

Contact: Doug Savage, 698-9774

Skiers of all levels (including first-timers) are welcome to join Doug for a friendly introduction to cross-country skiing and warm-up for the season. A glide to Reflection Lakes is a wonderful way to celebrate an early wintery day at Mt. Rainier.

### **Contra Dance**

Saturday Nights

11/6 at Silverdale Community Center

12/4 at Givens Community Center

7:00 to 8:00 pm instruction \$1

8:00 to 11:00 pm dance \$4

Sponsored by: Kitsap County Parks  
and Recreation, (360) 337-5743

PWC P.O.C.: Tom Banks 697-7708

Contra dancing is similar to square dance but with more partner changes, not as precise, more fun and relaxed. There will be a one hour workshop with instruction prior to the dance, so even beginners can join right in. Singles and couples are welcome. Live music, caller and instructor. Call Tom to find out which PWCers are planning to attend.

## Announcements & Notices

### Accolades to More PWC Volunteers

The names of some hardworking PWCers were inadvertently left out of October's article about Olympic National Park volunteers. The Park recognized PWC volunteers for their two years of work maintaining and rerouting trails in the Hood-sport District. Contributing to the noteworthy efforts were Carol Cobb, Scot Fourier, Venita Goodrich, Roger Gray, Charles Kilbridge, and John Knott. Congratulations, and thanks for contributing your time and muscle-power to make our hiking experiences better and your fellow club members proud!



### Officer Elections

Elections for club executives were held during the October Monday meeting. PWC officers for the upcoming year were confirmed as follows:

President	Tom Banks
Vice President	Deborah Legg
Secretary	Kathy Weigel
Treasurer	Steve Vittori
Board of Directors	Ron Croft
	Doug Savage
	Joe Weigel

The club looks forward to a fun and successful year under their enthusiastic guidance.

### Over a Decade of Service

After almost thirteen years of unfailing reliability and commitment, Kevin Kilbridge is taking a break from his post as club Treasurer. Kevin became Treasurer in December of 1986 and has been re-elected every year up until this Fall as he steps down, turning the helm over to Steve Vittori.

Kevin has quietly and efficiently handled the club's finances and paperwork: renewals, new memberships, mail, and financial issues of all kind. His timely and thorough attention to detail has ensured outstanding administrative service to each member. The PWC extends the most sincere gratitude for the consistently high quality and untiring devotion Kevin has given.

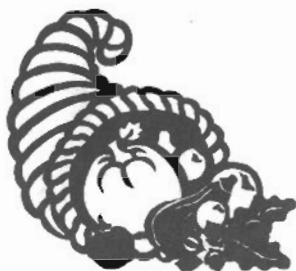
### Membership Lists

Remember to pick up your updated membership list at the Monday night meeting.

### Entertainment Ideas

Contact: Joe Weigel, 871-0291

Do you have an idea you think will make interesting entertainment for a Monday night meeting? Have you got a presentation? Know someone who does? Maybe you just have a topic that you think is worth pursuing? Contact Joe with your suggestions.



# November



Date	Outing	Contact	Page
Nov. 4th	Interested Members Meeting	Joe and Kathy Weigel (871-0291)	4
Nov. 6th	Pyramid Peak	Doug Savage (698-9774)	2
Nov. 6th	Contra Dance at Silverdale	Kitsap County Parks & Recreation (337-5743)	2
Nov. 8th	Monday Night Meeting	at Unitarian Fellowship Church	1
Nov. 13th	Beach Hike & Museum Outing	Steve Vittori (377-1869)	2
Nov. 13th	1999 Mt. Tahoma Gala	(360) 569-2724	insert
Nov. 13th & 14th	Rock Climbing at Frenchman's Coulee	Tom Banks (697-7708)	2
Nov. 18th	PWC Board Meeting	Tom Banks (697-7708)	4
Nov. 20th	Mt. Rose	Scot Fourier (698-3005)	2
Nov. 25th-27th	Mt. Baker	Jon DeArman (697-1352)	2
Dec. 4th	Contra Dancing at Givens	Kitsap County Parks & Recreation (337-5743)	2
Dec. 11th	Reflection Lakes	Doug Savage (698-9774)	2

## Interested Members Meeting

Thursday, November 4th, 7:00 p.m.

Kathy and Joe Weigel will host the interested members meeting at their home in Port Orchard. Join the informal and social planning of upcoming trips and club business. Call Joe or Kathy at 871-0291 for directions. Carpooling is encouraged.

## PWC Board to Meet

The Club's Board of Directors will have a meeting on Thursday, November 18th at 7:30 p.m. All club members are welcome to attend. This is the venue where club policies are discussed and established. The meeting will take place at Doug Savage's house. For more information, contact Tom Banks at 697-7708.

## PWC Climbers Group

An informal gathering of climbers meets the last Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Silver City 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](mailto:jmorrison@telisphere.com) or phone 638-2705.



### A Word About Outings

The persons sponsoring trips are organizers and should not be considered instructors. If you are unsure of your abilities, skill level, or equipment, discuss the trip thoroughly with the organizer. Often, friendly guidance is available on the trip; however by preplanning you will help ensure everyone has a safe and fun adventure.

The *Penwicle* is available on-line at <http://kendaco.telebyte.com/~bcripe/>

## Newsletter Folding...

A small group of PWCers meets to prepare the newsletter for mailing. Call Doug Savage at 698-9774 for specific location and time if you would like to help.

## Recent New Members

The PWC welcomes the following new members: Karen Johnson, and Libbey & Gregory Tiefer.

## Officers & Staff

President:	Tom Banks	697-7708
Vice Pres:	Deborah Legg	478-2829
Secretary:	Kathy Weigel	871-0291
Treasurer:	Steve Vittori	377-1869
Board of Directors	Ron Croft	779-6250
	Doug Savage	698-9774
	Joe Weigel	871-0291
Entertainment:	Joe Weigel	871-0291
Refreshments:	Dawn Vokali	377-5103
Clean-Up:	Diana Cripe	895-4299
Scrap Book:	Kathy Ryan	876-9672
Penwicle:		
Editor	Teresa Sayers	895-8769
Assembling:	Doug Savage	698-9774
On-line Services:	Bert Cripe	(206) 548-8052

## PWC On-Line

Bert Cripe maintains the club website and the email list. Contact him for your on-line needs.

Phone: (206) 548-8052

email: bcripe@kendaco.telebyte.com

**Last Month's Door Prize:** Gail Christensen won the October door prize, a pair of downhill ski goggles. The September door prize, won by Cheryl Gudger, was a mini leatherman's tool. The monthly door prize is donated by Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe. All members can enter at the Monday night meeting.

## More Announcements & Notices

### Skateland

Sunday Nights

7:00 to 9:30 pm

Contact: Charlie Pomfret, 479-7820

A number of PWCers convene at Skateland for adults only skate night. Rent skates there or strap on your own and come on down!

### Weekday Skiing

Contact: Jon DeArman, 697-1352

Jon is looking for skiers available for midweek outings throughout the winter.

### Winterfest 2000

February 12th thru 14th

Contact: Doug Savage, 698-9774

The Inn of Packwood begins taking reservation for Winterfest 2000 on December 1st. Members can downhill ski at nearby White Pass or cross-country ski or snowshoe. The Inn has a few rooms that accommodate larger groups. It also has a heated indoor pool.

### Telemarking classes:

Dale Boyle will be teaching two telemarking classes at White Pass during Winterfest. The morning of February 12th, Dale offers an introductory class. An intermediate class will be held the morning of February 13th. The classes are free, but individuals will have to buy their own lift ticket.

**No November potluck due to the Thanksgiving holiday.**

# Kayaking at Bella Bella

By Roger Gray

On August 20, five of us from Olympic Kayak Club left Kitsap County for Bella Bella, British Columbia for a kayaking trip. Our group consisted of two women, Laura Boyle and Charlie Rudolph, and three men, Bruce Barrus, Dale Finholm and your reporter. We drove two days to Port Hardy on Vancouver Island to catch a BC Ferry at nine o'clock at night on August 21. After an all-night ferry ride, we arrived in McLoughlin Bay early the next morning. The ferry landing at McLoughlin Bay is about a mile and a half south of Bella Bella on Campbell Island.

There were several other kayaking parties on-board the ferry with us. This has gotten to be a favorite launching place for expeditions into the Hakai Wilderness and Queen's Sound. The other parties were all going south, so we went north.

We paddled past Bella Bella around the north end of Campbell Island into Norman Morrison Bay on the northwest side of Campbell Island, where we made camp the first night. The weather at this time was good.

Bruce and Charlie made dinner that night, treating us to a native grass called goosetongue in the stew. Goosetongue can be used raw in salad or cooked like green beans, which it resembles in taste. Bruce is a National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) instructor who leads kayaking trips to Prince William Sound and other exotic places when the spirit moves him. Laura is also knowledgeable about edible wild plants. She found red huckleberries in the woods. They tasted too tart for me to eat raw, but she made a dessert of strawberry jello and wild huckleberries that was delicious. People have asked her how she can make jello without refrigeration. She says you don't need refrigeration. She just cools it in the bottom of the kayak or in a bowl set in the cold salt water. Laura also introduced us to pickleweed, another native grass that grows at the edge of the beach--also delicious in salads. On previous trips Laura has also showed us how to gather wild onions and wild rose hips.



The next morning, we launched in fine weather and high spirits. We paddled south in Raymond Channel, between Campbell Island and Horsefall Island, planning to paddle around Campbell Island eventually. We paddled past Stryker Island into a bay on the south end of Stryker, looking for a campsite in the area used on a trip with a group of NOLS instructors the year before. We paddled around in the area for an hour before we finally found a good campsite, not far from the place marked on my chart by the canoeists. We judged this place would be high enough to keep us out the high tide in the middle of the night.

Not long after we landed, the rain began. It rained non-stop for thirty-six hours, hard and harder. For the next few days we sat in our tents, sulking like Ajax. Happily, Bruce had a cook shelter we had erected that we could sit under to eat our meals. But the fun quickly went out of the expedition. I had planned to feed the party fresh bottom fish, but fishing was out of the question in all that rain. In the middle of the first night here, Dale was up anxiously watching the rising tide approach his tent door. He had the two stakes nearest the beach pulled, ready to retreat his whole tent further up the beach--all this in the pouring rain. The rising tide stopped just at his tent door and he was at last able to go back to bed. The next day, Dale judiciously moved his tent into a small space between my tent and Laura's after carefully scooping out the mounds of goose droppings on the site. The tide that night would be a few inches higher according to the tide guide.

During the night I zipped up the zipper on my sleeping bag and the pull came right off the end of the zipper. I was grouching about this the next day. Charlie offered to fix it for me. Turns out, Charlie, who is a teacher, is also an excellent seamstress. With needle and thread from my first aid kit, she had the zipper repaired in no time. It's still working!

In the morning, the rain finally stopped. We finished breakfast, struck camp, and paddled out on the ebb. We were headed for the south end of Campbell Island, expecting that by now the other kayaking parties would be long gone. We knew there was a campsite near (I thought it was on) Soulsby Point. But Laura had a tourist map she had picked up on the



ferry that showed a campsite in a bay north of Soulsby Point. Just in case there might be someone camped at the Soulsby Point site, we went far back into the narrow bay looking for the tourist map site. We did find a place that would have been a good camp for a couple of tents, but it was not big enough for our party. Besides, the site was completely buried in big, black mounds of goose droppings. I don't know what the wildlife biologists would say, but it occurs to me that maybe we here in the Northwest should be eating more wild goose.

We paddled south looking for the supposed site on Soulsby Point, which we finally located on a nearby island, also marked on Laura's tourist map. Alas, one party of four kayakers was already there. They had been there since their first night off the ferry, unwilling to move because of the rain. They generously invited us to move in—our only option anyway. We pitched tents wherever we could find room in the jungle. Bruce, however, saw a flat spot on the sandy beach that he thought might be just out of the tide's reach. He located the tide line from the last highest tide, consulted the tide book, stuck a stick in the sand at the highest tide mark to the highest predicted tide for this night, lay on his stomach in the sand, put a water bottle in the sand for a level, and sighted along the water level in the bottle to estimate where the night's high tide would reach. As a final calculation he consulted the barometer (altimeter), which he had been watching throughout his trip as a weather predictor. Then he concluded he could safely pitch his and Charlie's tent right there on the beach in the most comfortable site in the whole camp. So certain was he of his calculations that he didn't bother to get up as high tide approached in the middle of the night. And, he was right! It was as though old King Canute had spoken to the tide, "Thus far and no farther." Next morning the high tide line was just short of their tent.

One island looks pretty much like another. Navigation in the islands can be tricky. For that reason, I carry my Global Positioning System and consult it often. But Bruce, the NOLS instructor, doesn't even use a compass. He pays careful attention to the chart and his surroundings at all times and always seems to know where he is.



The next morning we all had pretty much had it with the confounded rain. We agreed to catch the flood current back up the coast of Campbell Island to McLoughlin Bay, and to call an old friend of mine, Wilma Humchit, who keeps a bed and breakfast in Bella Bella, to see if she would take us in without a reservation. We still had a day and night and another day before our ferry left on August 27 at 11 p.m. We paddled into McLoughlin Bay about midday. As the ferry office is open only briefly when the ferry is in, we went into the fish cannery on the dock, owned by the Band, and I called Wilma on the phone. She said, "Sure, come on in!" She even sent her brother-in-law to pick us up in his truck. We left our kayaks in the woods near the cannery.

As usual, Wilma welcomed us and made us at home and revived us with her wonderful culinary skills: dinner, breakfast, lunch, and dinner again; fresh cod, fresh salmon; not to mention, hot showers and real beds. Wilma's six-year-old daughter, Linda, kept us entertained with her boundless energy and antics. She has seen enough of me in the last three years that she has taken to calling me 'Uncle.' Everyone agreed that the time at Wilma's more than made up for the dismal paddling conditions.

We arrived back in Port Hardy the next morning, retrieved our cars, and were on the way home. In spite of the rain, my paddling companions had kept their spirits up. We are all experienced northwest sea kayakers who understand that it rains around here. They are all good cooks who can prepare a meal, often using foods harvested on the site, in dismal weather. All were inventive and imaginative in the face of adversity: a good group of companions to paddle with in fair times and foul. I can hardly wait to do it again.

## Newsletter Contributions and To Change your Address or Phone Number:

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

Teresa Sayers, 4130 Harris Rd. SE, Port Orchard WA 98366; phone 895-8769; email tsayers@telebyte.net.

### How to Join the PWC (or renew your membership):

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 Peninsula Wilderness Club, P.O. Box 323, Bremerton, WA 98337-0070. PWC members get a 10% discount at Mt. Constance Mountain Shoppe and at The Ajax Cafe.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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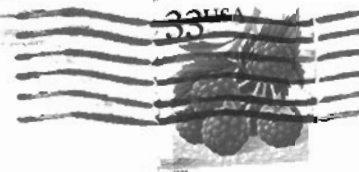
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Peninsula Wilderness Club  
P.O. Box 323  
Bremerton, WA 98337-0070



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