

PENNZANCE

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.

April 2000

Monday Meeting

April 10th

Coastline, Culture & Cruise

Alice Savage will present a slide program of her time sailing aboard a former Soviet Union research vessel. Her tour took her up the eastern coast of the former Soviet Union, stopping at villages along the way. She also crossed into the Arctic Circle. Share images and experiences of the native people, coastal lands, pack ice, and frigid waters.

John Muir Trail

While hiking the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) last year, I was so smitten by the beauty of the Sierras that I vowed to return and hike through them at a much slower pace. Therefore, I have obtained a permit for eight people to hike most of the John Muir Trail.

Those wishing to go for the entire three weeks will board a train in Tacoma on August 5th and arrive in Merced, California on Sunday, August 6th where final preparations will be made. On August 7th, we'll take a bus to Yosemite and begin Phase 1 of the journey, hiking 64 miles to Vermilion Valley Resort for a resupply rest. An optional climb of Mt. Lyell, the highest peak in Yosemite, is included in Phase 1. A pace of 10 miles a day is anticipated.

Phase 2 involves hiking 110 miles to Independence, California going through six major passes with most camps near high alpine lakes, also at a pace of 10 miles a day. Two optional climbs (or rest days) are included in Phase 2. From Independence, we'll take a bus to Los Angeles on August 26th and fly back to Seattle on August 27th.

Those limited to a one week journey can drive to Vermilion Valley Resort (VVR) (my favorite resupply point on the entire PCT), hike in for two days to a two day climbing base camp and then hike back to VVR (six days on the trail). Plan to start hiking from VVR on August 14th.

Call David Cossa at (360) 871-5577 to reserve a spot and for more information.

Upcoming Outings

Ice Axe Practice

Saturday, April 8th

Contact: Doug Savage, (360) 698-9774

Get your first ice axe experience or practice the skills you already have on Mt. Ellinor as Doug sponsors his annual ice axe practice session. Mt. Ellinor provides great opportunities for practicing basic ice axe arrest, as well as, a fun glissade and beautiful views from the summit on a clear day.

Lower Big Quilcene

Saturday, April 15th

Contact: Ron Croft, (360) 779-6250

Enjoy a 10 mile (round trip) day hike with moderate elevation gain on the Lower Big Quilcene Trail. The path follows the gurgling Big Quilcene River through areas of virgin forest, second growth, and some clearcuts populated with firs, alders, maples, hemlocks, and rhododendrons.

Mountaineers' Ski Cabin at Stevens Pass

Easter Weekend, April 21st thru 23rd

Contact: Jon DeArman (360) 697-1352

Enjoy downhill skiing or cross-country touring at Stevens Pass over Easter weekend. Accommodations at the Mountaineers' cabin is \$24 for Saturday night and \$17 for Sunday night for non-members; \$21 for both days for members. The fee includes meals.

Duckabush Day Hike

Sunday, April 30th

Contact: Ron Croft, (360) 779-6250

Although there is some up and down on this trail, it's well-maintained and known for easy to moderate hiking with some virgin forest to enchant hikers. The day will be about 10 miles round trip, with hikers turning around at Five Mile Camp.

Wildflower-Birding Weekend at Umtanum Creek Area

Weekend of April 29th & 30th

Contact: Ted Wiles, (360) 871-3522

Bring your binoculars, magnifying glasses, and hiking boots. We will be car camping not too far out of Ellensburg on Umtanum Creek. This is a primitive camp area, so bring water or a filter. This is also a good place to try out your mountain bike.

Black Tusk Back-Country Ski

Weekend of May 5th thru 7th

Contact: Doug Savage, (360) 698-9774

Jon DeArman, (360) 697-1352

Black Tusk Trail is on the Giribaldi Glacier just south of Whistler, Canada. The outing requires ski mountaineering experience, avalanche beacons, and shovels. The trail is eight miles with 3000 feet of elevation gain. Two primitive cabins provide accommodations. The group will leave Thursday night and return on Sunday. Ten people maximum

Anvil Rock at Mt. Rainier

Weekend of May 13th & 14th

Contact: Doug Savage, (360) 698-9774

Jon DeArman, (360) 697-1352

Bivy at Anvil Rock and ski on the Muir snowfield. People should have intermediate telemarking skills. This is a good trip on which to camp light. There is 4700 feet of elevation gain.



More Outings & Notices

- ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
- ☐ Puget Sound Paddling ☐
- ☐ Basics - April 2000 ☐
- ☐ Contact: Russ Hallsted, (360) 871-3774 ☐
- ☐ Wish to begin sea kayaking on the Puget ☐
- ☐ Sound, but are not sure where to start? ☐
- ☐ Find yourself drawn to take a course on ☐
- ☐ sea kayaking, yet not interested in the ☐
- ☐ high costs and long travel distances in- ☐
- ☐ volved? ☐
- ☐ Consider joining us for Puget Sound ☐
- ☐ Paddling Basics. Includes three informal ☐
- ☐ classroom settings covering sea kayak ☐
- ☐ outfitting, safety considerations, the ma- ☐
- ☐ rine environment, kayak navigation, and ☐
- ☐ currents—plus, a rescue pool session and ☐
- ☐ several day paddles designed to empha- ☐
- ☐ size class instruction and introduce you ☐
- ☐ to real on-the-water challenges present in ☐
- ☐ the Puget Sound. ☐
- ☐ Tentative start date is immediately after ☐
- ☐ Spring Break. Will last two weeks, plus ☐
- ☐ two weekends (Saturday and Sunday). ☐
- ☐ You must supply your own equipment, ☐
- ☐ share pool costs (about \$10), and have ☐
- ☐ required texts (about \$40). ☐
- ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Skateland

Sunday Nights 7:00 to 9:30 pm

Contact: Charlie Pomfret, (360) 479-7820

Join in the fun as a number of PWCers meet at Skateland for adults-only skate night.

Pacific Water Sports

presents the 11th Annual

SEATTLE PADDLE FEST

**an on-the-water educational
paddling festival**

Canoe Day: Saturday, April 29th

Kayak Day: Sunday, April 30th

Hours: 10 am to 4 pm

**Location: Stan Sayres Memorial Park,
Lake Washington**

Come learn about the latest in canoeing and kayaking at the 11th Annual Seattle Paddle Fest held at Stan Sayres Memorial Park on Lake Washington.

Try canoes and kayaks from some of the nation's leading builders at Seattle's largest paddling demo days. From trying your first launch to pro tips on improving your technique, you'll build your skills as you try out the latest in paddling craft.

If you are new to paddling, sign up for a morning \$10 "quickie course" taught by local paddling clubs. Learn the basics of paddling your own canoe or kayak. All of the class fees go to the clubs.

For only \$10 you can try out lots of boats and learn about the various designs. Kids under 9 are free. A portion of the fee goes to Washington Water Trails Association and the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance. For more information and half-price tickets contact Pacific Water Sports at (206) 246-9385.

The Seattle Paddle Fest is sponsored by Pacific Water Sports, Inc. with the support of Sports Etc. magazine and Canoe and Kayak magazine.

(CELEBRATE OUR EARTH!)

EARTH DAY 2000

(CONTRA DANCE!)

Saturday, April 22nd

7:30 pm - 10:30 pm

**Island Lake Community
Center in Poulsbo**

**(between Ridgetop Avenue &
Central Valley Road near Silverdale)**

Live Music by Country Capers

Relaxed, easy fun! American folk dancing. All ages welcome All dances taught.

\$15 Admission

All proceeds to benefit Kitsap's Washington Conservation Voters

For more information contact: Tom Banks, (360) 697-7708

No experience or partner required!

Dress casually.

Wear smooth-soled shoes.

Saturday Night Contra Dances

April 1st Silverdale Community Center

May 6th at Givens Community Center (Pt. Orchard)

7 pm to 8 pm Instruction \$1

8 pm to 11 pm Dance \$4

Contra dancing is similar to square dancing but with more partner changes, not as precise, more fun and relaxed. There will be a one hour workshop with instruction and then dance the rest of the night away! Singles and couples welcome. Live music, caller, and instructor.

No pre-registration required.

**Presented by Kitsap County Parks and Recreation
(360) 337-5743**

Ski to Sea

Memorial Weekend May 27th thru 29th

Contact: Scot Fourier (360) 698-3005

The goal is to build two teams of eight people each to compete in this annual relay featuring the following events: downhill and cross-country skiing, running, road biking, canoeing, mountain biking, and kayaking. This is a fun event that welcomes aspiring and accomplished athletes alike.

Trail Maintenance

June 17th thru 25th

Contact: Doug Savage, (360) 698-9774

Clear your calendar so you can join Doug for trail maintenance on the Black and White Lakes Way and Six Ridge trails. The Backcountry Horsemen of Mason County will carry gear in and out the six miles to camp at Big Log. Stay a day or two or the entire time. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

Wonderland Trail

**August 12th thru August 21st or 23rd
(10 to 12 days)**

Contact: Tom Broszeit (360) 830-5774

Email: Wonderhike@aol.com

A spectacular 93-mile trail encircling Mount Rainier that leads past lakes, waterfalls, and glaciers; through forested valleys, flowering sub-alpine meadows, and snow-covered passes; a classic Northwest hiking adventure. Sheets with trip details will be available at regular club meetings. Need to have names of participants by June 10th in order to obtain an advanced back-country use permit. A strenuous hike with much elevation gain/loss along the tour but by spreading the trip over 10 to 12 days the pace should suit the average backpacker. Number of days may be decided as a group. Maximum party size is 8.



Ultralight Backpacking Adventure Series

Contact: Mark Hendrickson (360) 830-4521

July 21st thru 23rd From Olympic Hot Springs to Appleton Pass via Boulder Lake and back to Olympic Hot Springs

August 4th thru 6th From Staircase to First Divide over to Flapjack Lakes then back to Staircase

August 19th thru 26th Wonderland Trail around Mt. Rainier

September 15th thru 17th Tentatively – Dungeness River trailhead over Constance Pass back to Dungeness trailhead.
(Road may not be open)

This twist on traditional backpacking is not for the faint-hearted. Backpacking with minimal gear, around 15 pounds, adds new challenge and perspective on the activity. Look in upcoming *PENWICLES* for more information on the growing sport.



Olympic Coast Beach Clean-Up

Saturday, April 29th

Contacts: Irma O'Brien, (360) 598-4495

J. Klippert, email: JPKlippert@aol.com

In the spirit of Earth Day, a clean-up of all beaches in Olympic National Park is being organized. There are four beaches to choose from. For remote beaches, hike in and spend the night. This is an effort to assemble a large number of volunteers to honor and nurture our precious coastline.

PWC Climbers Group

An informal gathering of climbers meets the last Monday of the month at 7 pm 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 (360) 697-7708. For a list of climbers, send an e-mail to **Jim Morrison** at: jimjulien@yahoo.com or phone (360) 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.



April
April



Date	Outing	Contact	Page
April 2000	Puget Sound Paddling Basics	Russ Hallsted, (360) 871-3774	3
Apr. 1st	Contra Dance, Silverdale Community Club	Kitsap County Parks and Recreation, (360) 337-5743	4
Apr. 6th	Interested Members Meeting	Rick & Vicky Fleming, (360) 779-2275	6
Apr. 8th	Ice Axe Practice	Doug Savage, (360) 698-9774	2
Apr. 10th	Coastline, Culture & Cruise	Monday Meeting at Kitsap Unitarian Fellowship Church	1
Apr. 15th	Lower Big Quilcene Day Hike	Ron Croft, (360) 779-6250	2
Apr. 21st	Potluck	Joe & Kathy Weigel, (360) 871-0291	6
Apr. 21st - 23rd	Stevens Pass Ski	Jon DeArman, (360) 697-1352	2
Apr. 22nd	Earth Day 2000 Contra Dance	Tom Banks, (360) 697-7708	4
Apr. 24th	Climbers' Group Meeting	Jim Morrison, (360) 638-2705 & Tom Banks (360) 697-7708	5
Apr. 29th	Olympic Coast Beach Clean-Up	Irma O'Brien, (360) 598-4495; J. Klippert, email JFKlippert@aol.com	5
Apr. 29th - 30th	Wildflower-Birding Weekend	Ted Wiles, (360) 871-3522	2
Apr. 29th - 30th	Seattle Paddle Fest	Pacific Water Sports, (206) 246-9385	3
Apr. 30th	Duckabush Day Hike	Ron Croft, (360) 779-6250	2

Interested Members Meeting

Thursday, April 6th, 7:00 pm

Contact: Rick & Vicky Fleming (360) 779-2275

Rick and Vicky Fleming will host this month's Interested Members Meeting at their home in Poulsbo. A dozen or so members meet in a fun and social forum to plan trips and discuss club business and new ideas. It's a great way for new members to meet people and get involved. Call Rick or Vicky for directions.

April Potluck

Friday, April 21st, 6:00 pm

Contact: Joe & Kathy Weigel, (360) 871-0291

Bring your favorite food to share and join the fun of the monthly potluck. It's a great way to meet and welcome new members and swap tales with long-time PWCers. The host will provide dessert. **Please bring a main or side dish, appetizer, or salad.**

Carpooling is strongly encouraged!

Newsletter Folding...

A small group of PWCers meets to prepare the newsletter for mailing. Call Doug Savage at (360) 698-9774 for specific location and time if you would like to help.

Recent New Members

The PWC welcomes new members: Jack Coleman; Kathryn Connelly; Brianna Crane; Thomas & Kim Eisler; Mark & Dianne Hendrickson; John Kephart; Linda Lester; Andrea Braund & Christopher Romano; and Nate Thomas.

Officers & Staff

President:	Tom Banks	(360) 697-7708
Vice Pres:	Deborah Legg	(360) 478-2829
Secretary:	Kathy Weigel	(360) 871-0291
Treasurer:	Steve Vittori	
Board of Directors:	Ron Croft	(360) 779-6250
	Doug Savage	(360) 698-9774
	Joe Weigel	(360) 871-0291
Entertainment:	Joe Weigel	(360) 871-0291
Refreshments:	Dawn Vokali	(360) 871-5754
Clean-Up:		
Scrap Book:	Kathy Sinn	(360) 876-5730
PENWICLE:		
Editor:	Teresa Sayers	(360) 895-8769
Assembling:	Doug Savage	(360) 698-9774
On-line Services:	Bert Cripe	(206) 548-8052

Last Month's Door Prize: There was no door prize at the March meeting due to the Whittaker presentation.

More Announcements & Notices



Visit the *PENWICLE* on-line at <http://kendaco.telebyte.com/~bcripe/>

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

Renewal Reminder:

If you are joining or renewing your membership, please send your check or money order to the P.O. Box listed for the PWC on the back of your newsletter. The Treasurer receives transactions through this address. Sending these transactions to the newsletter editor will slow the process. Thank you.

PENWICLE Submittals

⇒ Deadline for newsletter submittals is the 15th of the month. See the back of the newsletter for where to send your contributions.



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Pet Policy

- Because some people may not be as comfortable with your pets as you are, you're asked to
- please leave them at home when attending
- PWC outings unless the trip is specifically
- advertised as welcoming them. Thank you.

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Climbing Mt. Olympus

by Roy Smith

(reflections from a July 1999 climb)

Climbing Mt. Olympus, the Monarch of the Olympic Mountains in Washington State, is no easy feat due to the 17.4-mile trek to Glacier Meadows, an elevation gain of 3600 feet from the Hoh River Ranger Station, before the actual climb begins. From Glacier Meadows (4200 feet) the route taken by Roy C. Smith of Leesville, SC and a group from Bremerton, WA, all members of the Peninsula Wilderness Club, followed a trail just past the summer ranger station that turns right (SW) and leads to the 4700-foot level on the Lower Blue Glacier. After four days of the six-day trip, we reached the summit at 7965 feet.

With three weeks of planning and long-distance communications about the route to take, the best time of the year for success, the weather conditions, as well as, earlier season snowfall and rain, plus who would participate in the climb, I left Charleston AFB on Sunday, July 18th, just hours after a Batesburg-Leesville Class of '54 reunion on Lake Murray. After arriving at McChord AFB in Tacoma, Washington, I rented a car and drove up to Bremerton and stayed with friends until the departure date on the 24th. We had a meeting at the home of one of the climbers on Tuesday to iron

out last minute details--carpooling, ropes, protection devices, snow shovels, tent-mates, crampons, and extra time allowances for bad weather. On a prior trip with my wife in



May and June this year, we learned that Hurricane Ridge in the Olympic Mountains had gotten 2.5 times the average snowfall. Mt. Baker in the nearby Cascades had broken a world record for the season, somewhere around 100 feet. With all that snowfall, it meant only one thing: the Hoh River rain forest basin would have received nearly 200 inches of rain (or about 17 feet). The yearly average at the Hoh River Ranger Station is 145 inches (or about 12 feet).

The Olympic Mountains have risen from the sea for eons. As the plate upon which this portion of the ocean floor was located inched towards North America about 35 million years ago, most of the sea floor went beneath the continental landmass. Some of the sea floor, however, was scraped off and jammed the mainland, creating the dome that was the forerunner of today's Olympics. Powerful forces fractured, folded, and overturned rock formations, which helps explain the jumbled appearance of the Olympics. Radiating out from the center of the dome, streams and later glaciers carved peaks and valleys (i.e., Hoh River Valley), creating the beautiful craggy landscape. This is why climbers today are drawn to the area—the beauty is unparalleled anywhere else on earth—but one has to be extra cautious when climbing due to what are called “rotten rocks” throughout the Olympic Range. Each year the winter storms off the Pacific Ocean push rain into the valleys and snow onto the higher elevations. This year's excessive amount of moisture created road closures, obliterated trails, and downed many giant douglas firs, sitka spruce, and cedars; all would be blocking trails from avalanche conditions, mudslides, etc. Our belaying, anchors, and free climbing would take extra precautionary measures due to the extreme amounts of snow, ice, and rain, more so than acclimatization problems. Tony, our team leader,

had to take all this into account, and it was discussed at the Tuesday meeting before the trip.

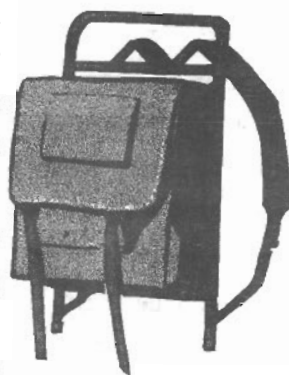
Day 1, Saturday:

We depart Bremerton about 5:15 a.m. and rendezvous at Hood Canal Bridge. After a hearty breakfast in Port Angeles, we run into rain at Lake Crescent (along Highway 101) even though the weather forecast calls for clear skies the next 3 to 4 days. The rain finally clears after we pass through the timber/lumber town of Forks and, by the time we register with the ranger at the Hoh Visitors' Center, it is blue skies. After a group photo and full canteens of water, we head out to our first planned camp 8.6 miles along the Hoh River. Some of the sitka spruce and western hemlock in the rain forest we pass grows tremendous in size, reaching 300 feet in height and 23 feet in circumference. Other than the douglas fir and red cedar we pass through red alder, vine maple, and black cottonwoods. Nearly every bit of space is taken up with a living plant. Giant slugs are seen along the trail, as well as, mosses, ferns, lichens, and sorrel—all giving the rain forest its "jungly

appearance". Once in a while we find and eat salmonberries and blueberries. The trail is murky and muddy sometimes, however, the rangers have done a great job of water diversion and placement of stepping blocks (cut from downed trees), boards, walkways, or rocks strategically placed in the streams that we encounter.



Each climber has between 45 and 55 pounds in their backpack, so the first night's stop at Olympus Camp is well welcomed. After filtering and replenishing our water supply and eating a hearty meal of de-



hydrated and fresh food we seek out a bear line for overnight food storage. Everything that resembles food, including soap, has to be strung between trees on a wire at least ten feet off the ground due to bear alert watch.

Day 2, Sunday:

This will be the hardest day, not only because of the 3600 feet elevation gain, but also because the valley narrows and becomes steeper and the trail becomes more washed out and blocked by blow-downs of giant trees and slides galore. Glacier Meadows is only 8.6 miles from Olympus Camp but the elevations gained and lost turns it into a mile and half straight up which feels like 20 by then. Glacier Meadows is at the foot of Blue Glacier and Ice Glacier. It is also the separating line between the tree line and snow-rock level. We camp in the snow 17.4 miles from the Hoh Visitors' Center/Ranger Station, again exhausted, and look for a bear line for food storage. Sleep comes quickly.



Day 3, Monday:

One hour after departing Glacier Meadows, we're out of the trees entirely and it's time to rope up with harnesses and put on our gaiters (if not already in use). Again we see evidence of tremendous avalanches from a month or two back which have left trees uprooted, split, tossed like toothpicks, only their tops sticking out of what we're now climbing through on the Lower Blue Glacier. We reach the lateral moraine and climb down 120 feet to what is expected to be the most difficult part of the trip: crossing crevasses covering the Upper Blue Glacier. As luck would have it, the crevasses are filled due to all the extra snowfall this season so there is a straight shot to the west side of the glacier without switchbacks. Soon we're climbing NW over rock and snow (we remove the ropes and harnesses) to the snow dome at 6600 feet. We pitch out tents, melt snow for drinking water and have another dehydrated meal while anticipating a glorious sunset over the Pacific Ocean from our advantageous viewpoint. Vancouver Island in Canada can be seen to the right of the setting sun. Again as luck would have it, we not only have fantastic weather but, to top off the most glorious sunset, we turn around and watch the full moon rising over the SE peaks and passes: Mt. Hermes, Mt. Olympus, middle and eastern peaks, and Athene's Owl. Since it will be a cinch to reach the summit (West Peak) in a couple of hours tomorrow, we decide to sleep in. The wind picks up during the night and keeps the tents flapping, only to die down just before daybreak.



Day 4, Tuesday:

It's a fantastic sunrise, but who can sleep in as our day has arrived! Not only that, but the tent gets hot with direct sunrays even though we're on a snow dome that's probably 1000 feet thick. After eating, taking pictures, and throwing snowballs (adults will be kids), we rope up and proceed on a rising traverse southerly through a 7200-foot snow pass. We're now at the top of Upper Blue Glacier. We cross the saddle between Five Fingers and West Peak. Early celebration on false summit soon finds us descending toward the SE side of the rock summit. Several snow bridges have to be crossed, so we use the boot-axe belay—both rope teams. The snow is soft but firm enough to go up, around, or over when we want to reach our objective: the rock peak which turns out to be about 120 feet above the snow line. Belaying up takes a little longer than expected, but safety is of utmost importance here. There is just enough room for all seven of us on top and another group isn't too far behind, so after another photo opportunity, lunch, and signing the logbook, we start repelling off the NE side of the summit. A second night on the snow dome and again the gorgeous sunset over the Pacific and full moon, leaves us sleeping like babes in mothers' arms. We have reached our goal, but the trip isn't over since at any time the weather can turn very nasty and the possibility of being hurt on descent is still evident.

Day 5, Wednesday:

It's another beautiful day. We break camp and start the fun part--glissading where possible which takes minutes to drop thousands of feet that took many hours to rest-step climb a couple of days before. We rope up again to cross the lower portion of the Upper Blue Glacier and unrope upon reaching the lateral moraine. We glissade and heel step rather

quickly, reaching the Glacier Meadows Ranger Station before noon. Only one more night on the way out remains. We spend that night on an island near Falls Creek and Glacier Creek, which joins the Hoh River. Heated water and a pour-over-the-head shower is welcomed and needed. We try to eat any extra food and burn extra fuel to keep from packing out the extra weight; we will not need the excess food and fuel since we have had outstanding weather conditions. We build a campfire (now permissible) and sleep under the stars without pitching tents.

Day 6, Thursday:

The last 11.6 miles out is becoming easier with the lighter backpacks plus the elevated feeling of accomplishment as we head for the parking lot at the visitors' center and civilization. We encounter day-trippers all smelling fresh, perfumed, or clean-shaven; families out for a couple of miles hike in the now dry rain forest. We're removing boots and talking it up with another incoming climbing group by 3:30 p.m. I had promised a dinner on my behalf for all seven, if I successfully made the treacherous, arduous trip without mishap. After having a quick 3-minute shower at Bogachiel State Park just south of Forks, we are soon in Port Angeles where we

have a marvelous dinner (real food) at the Bushwhacker Restaurant. A rain must have started sometime while we were eating, so a sigh of relief sweeps over the group as we get into our cars for Bremerton.

Eight climbers started, only one dropping out after the first day due to a muscle strain. Of the seven (two rope teams) the ages ranged between 41 and 62. All members had climbing experience, successfully logging in peaks such as Mt. Rainier (14,410 feet), Mt. Adams (12,307 feet), Mt. Hood (11,239 feet), and others: Glacier Peak, Three Sisters, Mt. St. Helens, and climbs in the Grand Tetons and Canada, plus many peaks in the Olympic Mountains ranging between 5000 and 8000 feet.

Our group consisted of two women, one an accountant and one a part-time math teacher, three retired navy gents, and two Navy shipyard workers. One member is on the Board of Directors of the PWC and climbs almost all year except for the winter ski season. Tony, the team leader, is the only prior one to successfully climb Mt. Olympus' West Peak. Our hats off to Tony for a great climb and a most enjoyable, challenging, and fulfilling experience.

Molenaar Meets VP

PWC member Dee Molenaar recently met with Vice President Al Gore to present him with a copy of his book, *The Challenge of Rainier*, along with a watercolor showing the route by which the VP and his son Albert III had scaled the mountain in a severe storm last summer. Al Gore told Dee that he had become inspired to do the climb after his wife Tipper had given him a copy of the book the previous Christmas.

Newsletter Contributions and Address or Phone Number Changes:

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

Teresa Sayers, 4130 Harris Rd. SE, Port Orchard WA 98366; phone (360) 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: _____

(Optional*)

(Optional*)

* If you provide this information, it will be available to other club members through the mailing and email list.



PENWICLE

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



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April 2000 -- Time Dated Material