

PLEASE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Washington Alpine Club



Sept 2005

Vol. 87 No. 9

BULLETIN

LOOKING AHEAD

- Sept 08 MOFA Class registration begins
- Sept 10/11 ICO at Guye Cabin
- Sept 24/25 Sargent Group at Cabin
- Oct 01/02 Rosemary's Group at Cabin
- Oct 16 Annual Meeting and Potluck
- Nov 05/06 MOFA Class begins
- Nov 11 WAC Annual Banquet
- Nov 12/13 MOFA Guye Cabin
- Nov 24 Thanksgiving
- Dec 10 New Snow Dinner

NO SEPT. BOARD MEETING

On a high hill on Camano Island, over looking the bay, under a sunny sky, **Pat** and **Nadia** were married. Family and friends and two llamas were witness. The bride was elegant in a crimson chiffon dress; the groom wore new jeans and a bright shirt (recommended attire for the celebration). After a sumptuous meal, the couple stood a friendly roast for a couple of hours and then the dancing began. (ed note. Pat has # 87 of the 100 highest peaks in Wash. Somehow Aug. got away from him and not much progress was made.)

A message from **Mike Brown** - Dear Friends, My journey continues to take me further to the East. I am getting ready to go off to Palestine with the Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) in a few weeks. When I arrive there, I will be joining an established team in their efforts to reduce violence between the Israeli Army/settlers and the local Palestinians in the occupied West Bank. (ed note. Mike will be in Israel from Sept 13th to Dec. 1st.)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

AMONG OURSELVES

MEMORIAL

HERBERT ELSNER, a member of WAC since 1934, died August 16th., at the age of 92.

His daughter, Kathie, said he had strong feelings, as many north- westerners do, that if you ruin the environment, you event- ually ruin yourself. Whenever he made it to the top of a mountain or was on a new trail, he would carve its name into his alpen- stock.

His wife Evelyn Elsner, three children and four grandchildren survive him.

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB
 PO Box 352
 Seattle, WA. 98111
Address Correction Requested
DO NOT FORWARD

FIRST
 CLASS

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

Organized 1916 Incorporated 1923
MEMBER OF: Federation of Western
Outdoor Clubs, Washington Trails Assn.
Washington Environmental Council.
Washington Wilderness Coalition.Mid-
FORC Coalition

The primary objective of this club is to encourage the healthful enjoyment of the great outdoors, to preserve its natural beauty and to promote good fellowship among all lovers of nature.

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206-467-3042

WAC Home page:

www.washingtonalpineclub.org

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Do you plan to move?
Send change of address forms to:
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PO Box 352
Seattle, WA 98111

What a wonderful summer this has been! After a cool and wet start, we got in to a long stretch of dry, and almost hot weather. As usual, WAC folks have been all over the Cascades, all over the state, even to places around the world!

The WAC Intermediate Climbing class starts soon. This is a great class with the best instructors this side of the Continental Divide! The students in the class have high potential and were lucky to get in. This week the weather is starting to cool off and our thoughts are beginning to turn to the dusty boards against the wall in the garage. I am thinking about getting some new ski poles, and how to wax more often and save the cost of paying someone. Sometime in October the summits of the Snoqualmie Peaks and Northern Cascades will have a pretty coating of white.

The Federation of Western Outdoor Club Convention was held recently at the Menucha Conference and Retreat Center on the Columbia River. The WAC was represented by Reese White. Thanks Reese! Menucha is a wonderful facility that was originally built in the 1920's. This year's theme was Lewis and Clark, their legacy and our challenge. The WAC has hosted the FWOC Convention 3 times over the years.

Don't forget the Annual Meeting coming up October 16. Mark you calendar. We want a full house!
Have you seen Guye Cabin lately? Our good friend Dale Ott loaded, hauled, and stored 1200 pounds of

coal! He has done this every year for as long as anyone can remember.

Our Cabin team has replaced the garage door, remodeled the outside stairs, painted, cleaned up, and done a long list of other things. Dave Mitchell and Les Sargent are working hard to get us a couple of new furnaces by October.

Guye Cabin has seen a lot of use this summer; the night of our work party there were 14 people overnight! As always I had a wonderful night's sleep! And, as always, I dreamed of the WAC. I had a dream that folks both new and old were stepping up to commit to giving back a little to our Club, not only with the work parties at the Cabin, but taking the lead as Climbing Class Chairs, and serving on the Board of Directors. Hold the phone! Wait! Stop a minute! That was not a dream! That is what is really happening! Woohoo!

We already have a full slate of Directors on the Board for the next year. However, there are still ways to help out! Pat O'Brien is looking for folks to be the Climbing Class Chairs for the next year or two. Do you have time take the lead in Club projects such as the Annual Banquet or Snow Dinners? Would you like to host the Cabin for a weekend this winter?

Do you want to want around with a special glow inside? Do you want to have folks wonder what that knowing smile is all about? Just volunteer or help out doing something in our excellent Club, the WAC! There is no pay, and no bonus. All the benefits are inside! Be a part of the WAC into the 21st Century!
Mike

FIFTH ANNUAL OLDTIMER'S REUNION

The weather was wonderful, the food was delicious, and the people attending were super. August 20th, proved to be a date that conflicted with some people's schedules who have regularly attended, but it was wonderful seeing those who were able to come up. They saw the cabin's new paint job, the new stove, the new playroom for the children, and watched President Mike and Jim Mossman place the rock around the door that has been installed to replace the garage door! Betty Morse would be proud of them. Ray Way won the prize for coming the farthest, but Gary and Joyce Way probably should have gotten it for driving the most miles. Marv Ficken, Margaret Morris, and Jean Thornber got the prize for having joined the WAC back in 1946.

Others attending were Eileen Ficken, Bill Zila, Marian and Kieth Alloway, Hans and Myrt Heia, Mike, Marina and Matthew Dietsch, Jay and Margaret Morris, Ernie and Barbara Dietrich, Les Sargent, Dave Mitchell, Eric, Lindsay, and Alicia Heia, Pete, David, Tara, and MJ Steele.

If you have missed one of these reunions in the past, and would like to see it scheduled for a particular time, let me know. Plans are usually set up in March or April. Next year you have a chance to set the date!!

MJ Steele.

WAC ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, October 16, 2005 At Guye Cabin! (always the third Sunday)

Open House at 10, Potluck at 1, Meeting at 2. The food competition is intense so start planning now!

Help vote the new Board of Directors into office. Do you have ideas or suggestions for the Club? This is a great time to bring them up! We will also hear the various committee reports. This is also a good time to tour the Cabin, get signed off to open and close, and do that repair you have been thinking about all year. Lots of folks will want to come up just to see what has been going on at Guye Cabin!

Mike

ANNUAL BANQUET INSTALLATION DINNER NOV 11

We need one of more people to step up and organize this event. The WAC has many aspects and this is one of the few times when all those different facets of the WAC come together. The WAC has been well known for 88 years for making great fun and the Installation Dinner is a great example! Usually we have a potluck dinner, then have a slide show of trips, the cabin, and who knows! If you would like to volunteer to organize this or would like to help with setup, breakdown, decorations, entertainment, or have historic slides, or stories of the cabin or club to share please call Mike Mahanay at mike@grandcanyontreks.org It is an evening of fun, meeting old friends, and making some new friends!

Mike

MEMBERSHIP GRACE PERIOD IS OVER!

If you have not renewed by now you'll be removed from the WAC database. If this happens you'll have to rejoin via the website, and have to pay the \$15 initiation fee again. So, if you want to remain a member, you'll need to act now!

MOUNTAIN ORIENTED FIRST AID COURSE

Be prepared to assist your ski companions or hiking and climbing partners in an emergency by taking the fall 2005 edition of the WAC MOFA Mountaineering First Aid Course! In addition, we are looking for folks who will continue their education by taking the MOFA instructor course and can come back and teach for us.

Spend two weekends reviewing learning how to identify serious medical conditions in time to perform life-saving first aid. You will review American Red Cross Standard First Aid and practice techniques to manage conditions such as orthopedic trauma, thermal injury, and physiologic deterioration due to high altitude. A rational approach to the evacuation of one or more injured persons is addressed both in the classroom and in field scenarios. MOFA certification is awarded on completion of the course.

This year, the basic two-weekend MOFA course will be held on November 05/06, and 12/13. The cost, which includes books, supplies, and lodging for the second weekend at Guye Cabin is \$80. Sign up will

begin Sept 08 and will be first come, first serve.

MOFA refresher courses are available through the Seattle Mountaineers.

MOFA Instructor courses are also available through the American Red Cross and are encouraged to those interested in helping teach these useful courses.

For more detailed information about enrollment in the basic course itself, please see the WAC website. The WAC contact is Mike Mahanay at mike@grandcanyontreks.org

NEW MEMBERS

Longley, Roger
Marjolijn Francissen

CABIN

We have had a great series of work parties this summer! The last one, in August, had almost 20 people participate, and 14 stay over Saturday night. Les and Dave did analysis on the furnace replacements.

We also completed the garage door replacement complete with a new rock wall. The garage door was once used to haul in wood to the basement, and park the snow packer. This was a major project that included two trips by Mike, Archie, and Jim Mossman over to the WAC quarry behind Hyak to carefully select rocks of the appropriate size and shape. I also included two trips to lumber yards to pick up and deliver the mortar required for the job. Some of you may remember Betty Morse who was active in the Club for many years. She is credited with completed the existing rock wall

around the Cabin. Hoping to measure up to high standard, Archie Brendan, Dave Wilkinson, and Mike Mahanay, carefully build a solid base for the new rock wall to be built on. The next week Jim and Mike came back and completed the wall during the Old Timer's Day. There was no shortage of helpful suggestions about how to mix the mortar (mud) and the quality of our work. As you would expect, all of the comments were positive, and encouraged us to do an even better job. It is strong, looks great, and we are very proud of it. The Ping Pong Room remodel is now complete. With new paneling, a big window, and the new wall it will be a warm and inviting room for many years to come! Participating in the construction of the new wall was Roger Hillerstrom, Eric Bosell, Lee Parsons, Rachel Parsons, Jim Mossman, Dave Wilkinson, Mike Mahanay, and Archie Brendan. (If I missed anyone, please let me know!)

Archie and Mike also finished the rebuild of the railing on the outside stairs. Thanks to Eli Holmes for getting this started. They now go down to the ground for the first time, and look fantastic. They are stronger than they ever have been. We used treated lumber. Don't forget, we'll still have to shovel them in the winter.

Jim Mossman began to varnish the family dorm door after weeks of scapping and sanding. This is probably the original door. It is Douglas Fir. Jim will put on three coats of varnish and then rehang the door. He'll have close to 80 hours in it before it is done. (He would be done if he wasn't hijacked to mix

mortar and haul rocks!)

Eric Bosell and his two boys mowed the grass, painted two doors, and painted the stairs. Rachel Parsons painted the new door and window frame. David Wilkinson and Kay Ishii hauled up a big load of wood, and then split and stacked it inside! Dale Ott and friends picked up and delivered 1200 pounds of coal to the coal bin. The Parsons' family managed to do the work party, and get a hike in to Snow Lake! Eldon Altizer and family dropped in to say hello on their way to Lake Chelan, and Doerte and her mother from Duisburg Germany, Crystal Mack, came up for dinner after a trip to Leavenworth.

I huge thanks to everyone who participated in the work parties over the summer. The Cabin is a magical place! It was wonderful to hear how pleased the Old Timers are with how the Cabin looks.

FURNACE REPLACEMENT

This summer we realized that we needed to do something about the furnaces at the cabin. They have been increasingly unreliable. My guess is that they are about 50 years old. At the July board meeting, we discussed the problem and decided to replace the furnaces with new equipment. The new furnaces will be all electric. Interestingly enough, the tables have turned on actual energy cost. At *last* years oil prices electrical energy was less expensive than oil. With oil prices as high and as volatile as they are now, electrical energy is cheaper. It looks like it will remain that way for the foreseeable future. We look forward to years of reliable clean heating. A provider has been selected,

who will install the furnaces, connect to the existing ducting and install programmable setback thermostats.

WAC was fortunate to have 3 phase power available at the cabin. It was originally used for ski tows, and is currently used for our sewer pumps. It will now also be used for heating.

Today Les Sargent, Ed Kelting and Dave Mitchell disemboweled the main furnace and took it outside in pieces. The drying room furnace is disconnected as well. They await a procession to their final resting place.

Some new electrical wiring needs to be added to run the furnaces. We will be looking for some help in getting it installed. Dave

PARKING

The parking is still in the hands of our good neighbors, Sahalie. Mike

DO YOU REMEMBER

That the cabin was built during the depression. Those out of work camped out on the property and did the construction work. Those who had jobs provided the food and materials for the building and joined in the work on weekends.

When a lady from Sahalie reported that one of their children had fallen into a deep hole in the snow and all of their men were gone. Our men rushed over there and rescued the child.

When we skied at the Summit. It was called the Park Board but we named it the Washboard.

When Agnes Stapp played the accordion for dancing, or we cranked up the old Victrola and danced to records. Sometimes we joined with

Sahalie on Saturday nights and danced.

Those cold nights in the dorm when we folded our clothes and placed them under our pillows so that they would be warm when we dressed inside of our sleeping bags the next morning.

When we had no ski tows or lights on the hills and the early-bird skiers packed the snow for those who liked to sleep in.

When the CCC used our cabin and property as their base when building trails in the area. The bosses slept in the cabin and the others slept in tents. For the use of the cabin they built our kitchen, the basement under it, and a room over it. When the CCC finished using the cabin they left a case and a half of dynamite behind. It was carried out over the old log bridge. When Agnes Stapp asked what would happen if they slipped, she was told that there was no need to worry.

The summer work parties when we cut firewood and stacked it in the crawl space under the dining room. In the winter we reached the firewood through a door in the dining room floor.

The skits like the Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter or the blindfolded boxing matches where the contestants wore long underwear and shorts and fought each other with folded newspaper.

When Ray and Louis Van Snyder were so proud of the diagonal window on the second floor of the cabin. (Yes, Agnes it is still there.)

When Betty Morse and her crew built the stone wall outside the basement.

When we carried drinking water in 10-gallon milk cans from the creek

and melted snow for dishwashing and bathing.

The winter we had 17-feet of snow on the ground, and snow sliding off the roof finally buried the cabin so that we had to shovel our way inside through one of the dorm windows.

When we made those cold winter night runs to the outhouse. The time we placed heaters inside for our comfort, only to have the snow melt and freeze again, causing us to make sliding entries into the room.

When the roof of the cabin began to smoke because the tar in the chimney was burning. Two of the men carried 10-gallon milk cans of water to the third floor to put the fire out. Afterward they wondered how they did it.

When Chef Nelson was such an important part of the Club. Kermit Williams introduced the Club to Chef and he became a wonderful friend to all who knew him. His rhubarb still comes up every year. When the wood stove made from an oil drum and the kitchen woodstove were the only means of heating the cabin. There were registers cut in the ceiling that allowed some heat to penetrate the second floor.

When the fellows had a football game on skis.

When we met once a month at Mannings Restaurant downtown for dinner in the "Submarine" room.

When we met once a month at the Seola Beach property for a picnic.

When we went up to Stampede Pass and stayed overnight in railway cars.

When Brownie and Louise Stapp learned to ski on barrel stave

skis made by Milton Stapp, their Dad. Mike

CONSERVATION

KEEPING THE NORTHWEST WILD - A Message from

Conservation Northwest
- Restore North Cascades Mountain Lakes to Their Natural State.

Urge park managers to let native life flourish. We are fortunate to have a natural heritage as beautiful and as wild as the North Cascades National Park, where sharp peaks support glaciers and snowfields that nourish more than 245 mountain lakes. Over the years, private citizens and the government have changed more than a third of these lakes by introducing nonnative trout.

Introduced, nonnative fish damage delicate mountain lakes by spreading disease and competing heavily with native trout and other wildlife. Introduced fish can devastate plankton, salamanders, and frog populations, destroying the natural food web. The Park was established in 1968 to protect the diversity of life in this delicate alpine ecosystem; continued introduction of nonnative fish shortchanges that diversity.

Park managers are now deciding between four alternative management scenarios for the park's mountain lakes. By August 26, please ask the Park Service to discontinue introducing nonnative fish into mountain lakes. Urge them to choose Option D and restore all lakes in the park to their natural state. Send a quick email message through our action center, <http://www.conservationnw.org/action/index.html?MessageTemplateID=3>.

One of the most remote places in the lower 48, the North Cascades National Park deserves premium protection! Thank you for acting now to help keep the Northwest wild.

Erin Moore
Publications Coordinator
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Formerly Northwest Ecosystem Alliance; we've changed our name, but not our mission or means. Our website is now www.conservationnw.org.

You can join Conservation Northwest for just \$15 per year; please go to https://commerce.realimpact.net/nwea/getinvolved_member.html.

CLIMBING

NORTHWEST MOUNTAINEERING JOURNAL

Our good friend Lowell Skoog has just released the new Northwest Mountaineering Journal

This issue has feature articles about rock climbing, ice climbing, alpine climbing, high traverses, mountain photography, and influential Northwest mountaineers. It includes reports of new climbing routes, first winter ascents, and first ski descents in the Cascades and Olympics. It also contains highlights from Mount Rainier and North Cascade National Parks.

The 2005 issue of the Northwest Mountaineering Journal is now

available on the web. See: <http://www.mountaineers.org/nwmj/05/issue2.html> Lowell Skoog, team leader. September 2005

AN ENCHANTING WEEK IN THE CASCADES

I met Toby and Pat Monday evening, July 25th, over in Leavenworth at 8 mile campground. As I'm about to pull into the site parking spot who do I see but KP. She is camping directly across the road with three of her friends and they are planning to also go to the Enchantments if they can get a pass (they had one for Colchuck but wanted one for the Enchantments).

Early the next morning we hit the trail to Colchuck Lake which was fairly easy despite our somewhat heavy packs since we had climbing gear and food for five days. By the time we arrived at the base of Aasgard Pass it was getting really hot. Three long, hot hours later we topped out at the pass and immediately went in search of a campsite. We found a lovely spot in the upper part of the upper enchantments near water and snow (which we used as our refrigerator). We set up Toby's megamid, our home for the next four nights. Lots of room, but not so great for keeping out the bugs which were in numerous supply. Huge horseflies and lots of mosquitoes greeted our arrival in camp. A little while later the first of the goats arrived which would be our constant camp companions for the next four days.

The next morning we got up at a reasonable time and headed up Dragontail. It's an easy ascent up the glacier to the ridge and

then a scramble up to the summit. The views were spectacular in all directions as we scrambled around the summit area and the ridge to the west. After enjoying the sun and views for quite some time we headed back to camp to hang out for awhile.

As we were planning our next excursion up Little Annapurna, who should walk into our camp but KP. Her group had made it up Aasgard but was passed out a little ways away (she had brought 3 inexperienced hikers up). She however had plenty of energy so she was heading over to do Little Annapurna and had just by chance walked into our camp as it was along the way. So the four of us headed up with KP talking non-stop to Toby out in front while the two old guys, Pat and I, pulled up the rear.

There were still some steep snow chutes heading up which we avoided as just 2-3 days before a hiker had slipped on one of these, slid about 100 ft (no ice ax), hit his head on a rock and went into the freezing cold lake. He didn't make it.

The following day we moved camp further down near some beautiful meandering streams that go right through the center of the upper enchantments. Then we set out for Prussik Peak, our prime climbing goal of the trip. I took the first pitch and after wandering around a bit found the first belay station and brought Toby and Pat up. This first pitch is really easy if you stay on route. I then led the 2nd pitch which is an easy 5th class crack with little steps in very convenient locations that lead to the ridge. Toby then led the crux 3rd pitch, 5.7, which includes an exposed friction slab which can only be protected at its base. He

did a very nice job leading the slab and then continued around a corner with some nice climbing to a good belay station. Then it was up some class 4 ledges to the final pitch. I led this final one which was loads of fun. Starts out with a 5.6 crack with a lieback, goes into a ledge with a flake and then into a chimney to the summit. A very nice combination of climbing moves required.

The next day was a mellow one for Pat and me as we just roamed around the upper enchantments while Toby went off to do the Enchantment Peak ridge. And we also met our 2nd WAC party. Zack Bisacky, was up there with a friend camped just a short ways away from us. Then our fifth and final day was the long hike out, 12 miles and 5400 ft down in brutally hot weather. When we got to Leavenworth the thermometer at the place we stopped for food said 100 degrees in the shade!!

A great week of climbing and scrambling in one of the most beautiful places in the Cascades.

Ira Rushwald

NOSTALGIA

The Brothers Aug. 1965. Eight climbers, lead by Ray Way, packed in to Lower Lena Lake where they were surprised to meet Margaret Lyman with her youngsters. A

pleasant evening was spent around the campfire.

After an early start and an interesting detour, result of too many white flags, the party found the peak just in time to see the summit disappear into the fog. S.O.P. for the Olympics.

This helping hand from Mother Nature, plus a slight loss of memory by the "Old Swiss Indian Mountain Guide" resulted in turning back about 500 feet from the summit. P.S. Prior to this climb, the leaders youngest son asked, "Say Dad, when are you going to put your ice axe over the mantel?" From the hundreds of climbers who have had a "help along" from the "Old Man of the Commonwealth," the answer is NEVER! The thought is untenable.