

# Washington Alpine Club

## BULLETIN *ON LINE*

October 2006, Vol. 89 No. 10



### ANNUAL ALL MEMBER MEETING - Oct 15

#### *Upcoming Dates!*

- Oct 15 Annual Members Meeting, Open House, Potluck
- Nov 4/5 MOFA Class
- Nov 09 Board Meeting
- Nov 10/12 MOFA Class at Cabin
- Dec 02 Roger H group @ Cabin
- Dec 07 Board Meeting
- Dec 09 Annual Snow Dinner
- Dec 25 Christmas (Monday)
- Jan 01 New Years Day (Monday)
- Jan 10 Telemark Ski Class Begins
- Jan 11 Board Meeting

#### **Presidents Corner**

Fall has arrived! Now is the time to take that trip to the high country to see the larches in their stunning yellows. The blueberries are done, the bears and marmots are getting very sleepy, and the rhubarb at the Guye Cabin garden is done for another year. Pumpkins are ripe and orange and will soon be turning into jack-o-lanterns at Snoqualmie Pass. Looking up from Guye Cabin the highlands are alive with yellows, reds, and orange colors.

The membership renewals are complete and we'll change the Cabin Combo as of the Annual

Meeting. We finished 2005 with a very healthy 405 members. (Last year it was 381, three years ago it was less than 290). Our Club continues to improve and grow. We had 70 folks sign up for multi-year memberships! The renewal process gets smoother each year. We are now all on the calendar year. A huge thanks to Lynne Miller! The Membership Chair is one of the most challenging positions in the WAC! Lynne processed over 400 renewals and checks, which is no easy task. The entire Club appreciates her hard work!

In 2006, we also reached a new high of 527 members! We must be doing something right! Unfortunately, if you have not renewed by now, the WAC bylaws require us to drop you from our membership roles as of September 01. There will be a reinstatement fee if you change your mind and want to return to the fold.

If you are betting on snow, don't forget to pick up your annual ski pass this month. The price will go up at the end of October. It only takes 7 days to pay for the pass. If you or the kids ski, or are enrolled in lessons, then the pass might work for you.

The Intermediate Climbing Class wrapped up last weekend. They enjoyed perfect weather for most of the class. Thanks to Andrew Toyota and Todd Gitts for organizing and heading up the class! We could not have

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.*

**PO Box 352 Seattle Wa. 98111  
 206-467-3042**

**WAC Home page:  
[www.washingtonalpineclub.org](http://www.washingtonalpineclub.org)**

**Board Of Trustees**

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1 st V P	Pat O'Brien	206.527.6881
2nd V P	Dave Mitchell	425.235.1039
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Secretary	Lynn Simmons	206.543.9024
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At Large	Laurie Rich	
At Large	Joe Sambarto	
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co-chairs	Katherine Pryde (KP)	206-240-1714
	Mica Schonbeck	206-790-2051

**Winter Division**

Telemark Ski	Jeff Wright	206.244.7410
Back Country Skiing	Pete Alderson	206.409.9657

**Property & Membership**

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Work Party	Bill Hooper	206.325.2851
Member processing		
	Lynne Miller	206.789.8093
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Cabin Supply	Tami Sargent	

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**MOVING ??**

Send change of address forms to:  
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**email:** Lynn Miller [lynne@ohana.org](mailto:lynne@ohana.org)  
 Dave Mitchell [dtmitch@mindspring.com](mailto:dtmitch@mindspring.com)

better co-chairs! As always, thanks to everyone who volunteered to help out with this class.

The WAC is fortunate that we are a 100% volunteer organization. Folks participate because they are motivated to teach others, and do the right thing. As I was doing my run along Alki this morning I saw a lady picking up trash that had washed up on the beach at low tide. I stopped to visit with her for a minute. She said been doing this every day since Earth Day in April. "But why?" I asked. She replied, "Mike, I do it because it makes me feel good inside, and I can go home knowing the beach is clean for others that might be seeing it for the first time. It is such a lovely place." Motivation is having the encouragement to do something. It comes from deep inside.

Sunday October 15 is our Annual Meeting at Guye Cabin. As always we will have an array of great food, (specialty potluck) and fun. We'll have an Open House and Tree Planting beginning at 9, Potluck at 12, Meeting at 1:30, and Conservation Summit at 4. If you can't come, be sure to mail your proxy vote today to Lynn Simmons.

I'm sad to say that the Installation Dinner, held each November, will not be held this year. The Board, and interested parties, will research our options.

The New Snow Dinner will be December 09. We are looking for someone, or a team, to organize the entrée. It can be anything you want, so please give me an email or call soon if you would like to lead this Dinner. Rosemary Daszkiewicz and Dan Miller did an awesome job last year with a surf and turf combo!

They will be a tough act to follow!

Outdoor activities tend to foster independence, self-reliance and critical thinking. In this wonderful time between summer and winter please visit the highlands, come out and meet your old friends, and make some new friends, at one of the many WAC events.

**WAC Annual Member Meeting Sunday Oct 15 At Guye Cabin!**

Everyone will want to make the trip to the Cabin!

Want to help with any of the events below?

Kids Tree Planting 9-11 (Please RSVP)  
 Open House at 9-11  
 Comfort Food Specialty Potluck at 12,  
 Member Meeting at 1:30,  
 Group Picture/ Slide Show after Meeting  
 Snoqualmie Pass Conservation Summit at 4

Meet the WAC climbers, skiers, and hikers. Learn more about our special Club. Bring your best specialty dish! Get to know historic Guye Cabin. See all the work done over the summer!

Vote in the new 2007 Board. Do you have ideas or suggestions for the Club? This is a great time to bring them up! We will also hear the Treasurer's report and all the chair and committee reports.

This is also a good time to get signed off on the opening and closing procedures if you have fulfilled your volunteer commitment to the Club.

If you can not make the meeting, please mail your proxy form to Lynn Simmons. ( Available Oct 01)

**WAC Annual Member Meeting Sunday Oct 15 At Guye Cabin!**

Can you volunteer to help with any of the events below?

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 Open House at 9-11  
 Comfort Food Specialty Potluck at 12,  
 Member Meeting at 1:30,  
 Snoqualmie Pass Conservation Summit at 4

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If you are out of town and can not make the meeting, please mail your proxy form to Lynn Simmons. ( Available Oct 01)

**Volunteering for the WAC**

We would like to thank all the volunteers for helping in the many aspects of the WAC over the last years. Working together we have made the WAC truly something special and unique. We certainly appreciate your continued support! But we would especially welcome anyone who has not yet contributed in the past to participate to help our devoted "regulars".

The Washington Alpine Club gives us all a great deal of pleasure

and satisfaction. We get to see magnificent vistas, hidden waterfalls, meadows painted with wildflowers from an inspired palette. It keeps us all in shape, smart, and young. We have all made many friends through our Club. Volunteering with the WAC can be very rewarding and provide an additional avenue to meeting people and finding interesting things to do with the Club.

It you have ever thought, "Hey, I'd sure like to give something back to the WAC in appreciation of all I have received," we have a deal for you! Besides the various classes, there are lots of opportunities to help with the bulletin, membership, publicity, leading hikes, and trips, as well as functions at Guye Cabin. Contact a Board member for more information!

### Telemark and Randonee Ski Classes 2007

Come join the oldest and largest telemark ski instruction program in the USA. Develop your skills so you can enjoy the backcountry even more. The WAC Wednesday night Telemark program has classes for skiers of all abilities -- So if you've never skied before or if you've skied for years, this program will help you have more fun on the snow. There are six sessions: Start on Wednesday January 10th 2007 through February 2007. Classes start at 7:00PM and end at 9:00PM. Classes are being held at Snoqualmie Pass Central. Instruction is provided by professional ski instructors.

New, this year Jeff and Randy are adding a randonee section.

### WAC T Shirts !!!

#### *You asked for it!*

Kristin Kaupang has finalized the design of the new WAC t shirts! Featured on the final episode of Project Runway, there are two different shirts available. One, a cotton t-shirt for \$10. Two, a wicking shirt for \$20. Everyone will probably want to get one of each, and they'll make a perfect stocking stuffer.

**TSHIRT #1:** \$10  
Design: WAC EMBLEM on the left chest.

White cotton short sleeve T-shirt  
Youth sizes: XS(2-4), S(6-8),  
M(10-12), L(14-16), XL(18-20)  
Adult sizes: S-XL

[http://biocroma.unizh.ch/gianluca/Files/WAC/WAC\\_emblem.jpg](http://biocroma.unizh.ch/gianluca/Files/WAC/WAC_emblem.jpg)

**TSHIRT #2:** \$20  
Design by Milos Pec.

White Washington Alpine Club on left chest  
White Mountain ( The Tooth) outline with  
Washington Alpine Club on back  
Red Dri-fit Short sleeve T-shirt  
Adult sizes only: S-XL

[http://biocroma.unizh.ch/gianluca/Files/WAC/WAC\\_Red\\_T-shirt.jpg](http://biocroma.unizh.ch/gianluca/Files/WAC/WAC_Red_T-shirt.jpg)

Please send an email to:--  
[kekaupang@hotmail.com](mailto:kekaupang@hotmail.com)  
to place an order.

#### *Specify the following:*

1. Type of T-shirt: Cotton or Dri-Fit
2. Number of shirts
3. Size of T-shirt
4. Name of person ordering
5. Email of person ordering, or contact person

### Things needed for Guye Cabin

Can you help out with any of these things?

Replacement couches/ chairs for Fireplace room.

Sturdy Wooden chairs and small table

Side by side refrigerator

Historic climbing, skiing equipment, memorabilia, photos, stories of the WAC

Ping pong Table, Snowshoes, Firewood, Other?

#### **Suggestions?**

Do you have comments, ideas, or suggestions that might be useful to help make the WAC a better organization? Please let us know.

### Gary Brill Avalanche Awareness and Level I Courses

Many people in the WAC have been through Gary's program. Gary has been to Guye Cabin, and we've had the opportunity to ski with him.

These practical and popular classes familiarize the winter backcountry enthusiast with hazard recognition and techniques for safe travel in avalanche terrain. Classroom sessions include trip planning, safe travel, terrain and route finding, mountain weather, emphasizing the Cascade and Olympic Mountains, and snowpack factors that affect both stability and evaluation.

Classroom sessions are the same for the 2-day (16 hour) Avalanche Awareness program and the 3-day (24 hour) Level I course.

The Avalanche Awareness program includes one full day of field work which stresses safe travel techniques, terrain, snowpack observation and testing, and the effective use of new

generation avalanche transceivers. Many students will want to go on to complete the Level I course by attending an additional field day which focuses on safe travel, route-finding and snowpack observations.

Created by Gary Brill and now in its 21st season, the Avalanche Awareness course, revised in 2005, reflects more than 35 years of backcountry skiing experience, 25 years of guiding and professional avalanche training. Professional member AAA, Affiliate member CAA.

<http://www.geocities.com/garyabrill/avalanche.html>

For More Info email: [jeff-wright98168@yahoo.com](mailto:jeff-wright98168@yahoo.com)  
phone: 206-244-7410  
webpage: <http://www.wacweb.org/Classes/telemarkclass/default.view>

#### **Letter from an oldtimer**

I belonged to the Washington Alpine Club back in the 1940's and 50's when I was a little kid and teenager. My mother is Agnes Stapp Wertz, my father is Milton Stapp and my stepfather is Wilbur Wertz. I really enjoy the pictures of the cabin and folks! It brings back fond memories of workparties and snow! That cabin was always one of my favorite places. I was there even before they had indoor plumbing (the best improvement made to the cabin!).

I was just a dumb kid while at the Cabin so my stories are from a kid's point of view, but I did some mountain climbing as a teenager until I discovered I was afraid of heights. I am still thankful to all the dedicated climbers who bailed me out. I also climbed Mt. Saint Helens (many years before it blew) and hopefully, I wasn't too much of a "pain in the a--"

for everyone else. I still have the ice ax I won from the Alpine Club in a membership drive.

My mother, Agnes, and I put up some of the rockwork on the wall below the big front window. I shoveled snow off the roof of the cabin in winter and washed a zillion dishes. My mom did a lot of cooking for the gatherings. I was secretary for awhile when we met in the Carnation facilities. We played Canasta, listened to old 78 records on the phonograph, and Pete Steele led us in folk dancing and of course, we skied - all wonderful memories!

I've lived in Fresno, California since 1963 and haven't had a chance to see the cabin in many many years. I have 4 kids and 11 grandchildren, none of whom know how to ski or climb mountains because my husband wasn't interested in that stuff (how sad is that?).

Thanks for all the good work, and memories, Jerilee Stapp.

**Trip Report: The Bugaboos!**  
Photos at: [http://isc.astro.cornell.edu/~don/pictures/v/friends/joe/joe\\_climbing/](http://isc.astro.cornell.edu/~don/pictures/v/friends/joe/joe_climbing/)

Hey all ! I took my first week long vacation of the summer for a trip to the Bugaboos in British Columbia, Canada Aug 10-20. I met up with some climbing buddies from my time in Ithaca, New York. Jeff Deutsch was on the last leg of a 3-month road trip and Kyle Story and his brother Brian were driving up from their home town of Bozeman, Montana. We met up for an amazing week of climbing after surviving a rampant thunderstorm the first night. These granite spires offer a quantity and quality of routes that is probably unsurpassed anywhere in

the world--22 routes on the west face of Snowpatch alone! There are plenty of climbs for everyone leading alpine trad, from 5.4 to 5.12. The Bugaboos by Atkinson and Piche is by far the best guidebook. Here is a short day-by-day report:

Day 1, Hike in: I leave Seattle at 3am for a 11-hour solo drive to Bugaboo Glacier Provincial Park in eastern BC just west of Banff. We crawl up the 3-mile trail with 75 pound packs and arrive to Applebee Dome camp in a thunderstorm. We try huddling under a tarp to no avail and decide to set up the tent as fast as possible and just throw whatever can get wet outside for the night. Welcome to the bugs--did I say, however, it gets some of the worst weather?

Day 2: Rest day, attempt to dry gear between rain showers...

Day 3, McTech Arete, Crescent Spire: Jeff and I climb a classic 5-pitch climb close to camp. We started in the sun and finished in the hail. Pitch 2 is a nice 5.10- finger crack (definitely bring extra .5 and .75 cams or nuts--I had to get creative since I left these extras at camp). Pitch 4 is a PERFECT 5.9 handcrack with a couple fun roofs to pass around--one of the best pitches EVER in Jeff's book (and I concur). Meanwhile, Kyle and Brian climbed the West Ridge of Pigeon Spire, the super classic 5.4 ridge climb. They had snow and ice-covered rock (and some amazing photos).

Day 4, Surfs Up, Snowpatch Spire: Kyle, Brian, and I took a trip up the 9-pitch west face route. You have to go over the Snowpatch-Bugaboo Col, which was steep and icy above the bergschrund. Lets just say it was cold on the west face in the morning and I left my long johns behind. The lower pitches climbed over wavy,

shallow, flaring cracks and the top had some great 5.9 hand cracks. I was freezing the entire time so I opted to shoot photos and just follow--nothing like mild hypothermia to trigger a cold.

Day 5, Beckey Chouinard, South Howser Tower: Ahh, the reason I came to the Bugs culminated on Day 5: Kyle and I climbed 20 pitches of perfect granite while Jeff and Brian climbed the NE Ridge of Bugaboo Spire

2:00 am wake up

2:25 am head out and climb the Bugaboo-Snowpatch Col

4:00 am reach the Pigeon Howser Col and drop my axe off and pull out my nut tool (kyle kept his)

6:00 pm descend down into East Creek Basin and start simul climbing a 5.5, 5.5, and 5.7 pitch. We pass a party of 3 at this point, the only other group on the route that entire day.

12:00 pm reach the end of pitch 10. Pitch 4 had a short 10- bulge and pitches 6 and 7 followed a HUGE left facing corner for 2 pitches of 5.8 fist and offwidth.

5:00 pm reach the end of pitch 15. These took longer due to the extra benefit of snow and ice in the 5.9 chimneys and the greater difficulty. Kyle leads the next few pitches, including the crux at pitch 11, a solid 10- offwidth start up the left side of the Great White Headwall. I was feeling a little sick and sore the entire day so I was glad that Kyle was stoked to pull all the harder pitches and keep us moving at a reasonable pace. 3 pitches of 5.9 chimneying up a snowy gully followed. It opened up to a fun 5.8 pitch of face cracks, followed by an A0 tention traverse into a 5.6 gully.

6:20 pm reach the summit after

a short 20m rap and 200 meters of simul climbing

8:30 pm finish 6 double rope raps off east face (opposite side) and a final rap off a v-thread over a gigantic bergschrund. A couple climbers made a first ascent on the S Face of S. Howser and were rapping close behind. We never saw the party of 3 after 11am earlier that day

10:40pm back to camp after running across the Vowell glacier, picking up my axe, and rap the Bugaboo-Snowpatch col

20.5 hour day camp to camp, ~20 pitches, Grade V, 5.10- A0 and a super amazing++ rating from me.

Rack to 4 inches with doubles of 1 and 2 cams. V-thread, webbing and screw for rapping bergschrund. Light crampons and approach shoes (leave the boots and heavy crampons behind for the Bugaboos)

Day 6: Rest Day for Jeff and I. Kyle and Brian climb on Crescent Spire

Day 7, Super Direct, Snowpatch Spire: Jeff and I attempt the direct start of the Beckey-Greenwood. We sleep in and let the sun rise before going up the Bugaboo-Snowpatch col one last time. A short fun 5.9 finger crack leads to the base of the crux 5.10 pitch. I lead up but soon bail when I realize "thin" meant thin pro, not just a thin crack. I wasn't feeling up for long runouts with 20-foot whippers so we bail on a couple nuts and call it a day.

Day 8: Jeff and I hike out early to soak in White Swan Hot Springs 2 hours down the road. Kyle and Brian make a 3.5 hour climb of the 20-PITCH 5.6 Snowpatch Route!--those guys amaze me.

Cheers,

Joe Sambataro