

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB | BULLETIN

December 2009 | Volume 92, Issue 10



WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

P.O. Box 352
Seattle, WA 98111

www.wacweb.org

The Bulletin is 100% online

This format allows us to offer photos, color, more timely content, and saves a lot of paper and trees. For those without email, with dial up connections, or with incompatible software we will continue to mail the Bulletin.

IN THIS ISSUE

Calendar	2
President's Corner	3
Winter Classes / Nordic Kids	4
Mountain Oriented First Aid	5
Guye Cabin	6
Renew your Membership	7
Snowshoe Guide	8
WAC Winter Events	10

Snow Season is here!



Fresh Tracks at Hurricane Ridge, Olympic National Park.

Are you determined to make this year the year of the Hog Loppet? Do you want to explore the forests in the tranquility of newly fallen snow? Check out details inside for WAC skiing classes and snowshoeing trips!

On January 10, 2010 our venerable Snowshoe Chair Extraordinaire, the Reverend Jonathan Pryce will lead the annual trip up Commonwealth Basin. This trip will have a 10 am start time, and meet at Guye Cabin ready to go at 9:30. Bring the 10+ essentials. Please rsvp so Jonathan can plan the day. Can you help? We need co-leaders and a sweep! jonathanpryce@comcast.net

For more info on ski classes, see page 4

For more snowshoe info, see page 8

Submit a story or photo!

Do you have a story or photo that you would like to share? Please send it in to us!

Email: wacbulletin@yahoo.com

WAC Technical T's

We still have a few WAC Technical T's left. Available sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL

Just \$20

WAC Calendar

December	
12	New Snow Dinner
January	
6	Telemark / Randonee Class Starts
7	Board Meeting
9 & 17	MOFA Instructor Class in Olympia
9 & 17	WFRC Class in Tacoma
10	Commonwealth Basin Snowshoe
February	
4	Board Meeting
6	Chicks on Sticks
13	Jente Loppet 10K
19-21	Backcountry Class at Guye Cabin
27	Hog Loppet Ski Tour
28	WAC Winter Fun Day
March	
4	Board Meeting
6	Vegetarian Potluck
7	Ozbaldy 50K at Cabin Creek
14	Snoqualmie Loppet Ski Tour
20-21	Climbing Class Instructor Training at Guye Cabin
23	Climbing Class Begins
April	
1	Board Meeting
17	Olympic Beach Cleanup
May	
14-16	Alpine Climbs at Snoqualmie Pass
21-23	Alpine Climbs at Snoqualmie Pass

Join the WACList on Yahoo

If you want to get mail on the WAC email list, join the yahoo group at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/waclist/>

Post message:
waclist@yahoo.com

Subscribe:
waclist-subscribe@yahoo.com

Important: You must be a current member! We have to approve you before you can join, so please put your name in the comment section.

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

Incorporated 1916 Incorporated 1923

P.O. Box 352, Seattle, WA 98111
www.washingtonalpineclub.org

Member Of

Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Washington Trails Association, Washington Environmental Council, Washington Wilderness Coalition, and MidFORC Coalition

The primary purpose 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.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President

Mike Mahanay | 206.931.4713

1st Vice President

Pat O'Brien | 206.527.6881

2nd Vice President

Dave Mitchell | 425.235.1039

Treasurer

Toby Young

Secretary

Lynn Simmons | 206.543.9024

At Large

John Sargent | 360.377.3217

Jeff Wright | 206.244.7410

Eli Holmes

John Commiskey

Ira Rushwald

ALPINE DIVISION

Climbing Class Co-Chairs

Mike Daly, Jeff Watts, Johana Hingle

WINTER DIVISION

Telemark Ski

Randy Oakley, Jeff Knudson, Mark Parker

Back Country

John Commiskey, Ty Tyler, Mica Schonbeck

PROPERTY & MEMBERSHIP

Cabin Chairman . . . Bill Hooper | 206.325.2851

Work Party Bill Hooper | 206.325.2851

Membership . . . Kristin Kaupang | 206-251-8295

Publicity Kay Ishi | 206.528.5630

Cabin Supply Tami Sargent

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bulletin Editor Jeff Dietz | 206.618.7589

Conservation . . . Mike Mahanay | 206.931.4713

Circulation Dave Mitchell | 425.235.1039

By Laws Dave Mitchell | 425.235.1039

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

December 2009

by Mike Mahanay

It seems like just yesterday we were picking blueberries and mushrooms, and doing yard work at Guye Cabin. Now we're getting ready for the Annual Snow Dinner, our boards are waxed, and we are drinking hot apple cider! This winter is already off to a great start, as we have a 32 inch base at Guye Cabin of brand new snow already. Many of us have already been up on the slopes!

The **New Snow Dinner** is this Sat Dec 12, at 6 pm! All the Washington ski areas are open! Many folks will be up for the weekend to ski, snowshoe, or just relax and have fun. Gino and Kathy Amodei will be preparing a wonderful surprise entree! Yummm! Everything else will be specialty potluck. Please bring your best specialty salad, vegetable, casserole, soup, appetizer or dessert. Can't cook? Bring flowers or drinks! Cost? Only 3 bucks minimum donation per person! Bring some cans or packaged food to donate to a local food bank. Any money received over the cost of the entrée will also be donated to the food bank.

Are you looking for a challenge? Do you want to improve your technique? Or just want to learn a new discipline? The WAC **Telemark and Randonee Class** is currently taking applications on the website. Don't delay, as the class is quickly filling up. Open to skiers of all abilities.

It will start January 06 and runs six consecutive Wednesday evenings, at Snoqualmie Pass West, and will cost \$130 for the six lessons. Thanks to Randy Oakley for organizing this on every year!

Vivian Darst will open Guye Cabin each of the six Wednesday nights. Ski Wednesday, spend the night and ski again on Thursday! The only catch is you must rsvp to Vivian. If everyone is heading back she will too. Her email is viviandarst@msn.com

Ty, John & Mica have been busy putting the WAC **Backcountry Class** together again. The class is open for applications now. The Climbing class is also open for applications, and the Kids Nordic too!

Kristin Kaupang has done a fantastic job the last three years as Membership Chair. Kristin along with Eli Holmes and Toby Young have initiated online renewals via the safe and secure Google Checkout. I was a beta tester and it took me about two minutes to renew! Easy, and safe! Go to the WAC website when you read this and renew for at least another year. (There is an option to renew for up to five years at a reduced rate) Renew here:

<http://www.wacweb.org/About/renew.view>



The 2010 Board is committed to serving you for another year. We are honored and proud to a part of the WAC. The Washington Alpine Club has a great history going back almost a century, to 1916. I enjoy talking to everyone in the WAC to get that sense of the past as we look toward the future. Please feel free to call me or any of the Board or Chairs if you have something you would like to suggest or have us address. We are here for you!

Our Club has a long great inspiring history going back to 1916 when the Club was founded by 31 year old Anna Louise Strong. Later, Guye Cabin was built in 1932. I always enjoy talking to everyone in the WAC, both old and new, to get that sense of the past as we build to the future. Please feel free to call me, or any of the Board or Chairs, if you have something you would like to suggest or have us address. We are here for you! For its 94 year existence the WAC has always been an eclectic collection of climbers, hikers, peak baggers, families, skiers, and lovers of the outdoors.

The great charm of this holiday season is that it is not a particular place or time or thing but a spirit of warmth, generosity, and good will that is always welcome everywhere. The WAC embodies the holiday spirit year round!

The Washington Alpine Club is on Facebook!

Facebook is yet another way to keep up with the Washington Alpine Club. Once you've joined Facebook, go to the WAC page and join the group. And invite your friends to join the group. You can connect with other WAC members, get information on upcoming events and post messages for other members.

Just click on the Facebook logo on the right to visit the WAC Page.



Backcountry, Climbing, Telemark / Randonee, and Kids Nordic are all accepting applications!

The WAC Backcountry Travel Class is now officially accepting applications!

The class focuses on safe backcountry travel for skiers (both Alpine Touring and Telemark), snowshoers, and snowboarders using splitboards. If you plan to venture into the mountains this winter, the skills you learn in this class will help you make good decisions while you're having fun!

Lectures are held on Tuesdays beginning Feb 16th from 7-9pm at the Prospect Church on Capitol Hill, and field work is conducted on weekends at various locations in the Cascades. The cost is \$120 and students must be WAC members (non-WAC members can apply for membership when they apply for the class).

Please visit <http://www.wacweb.org/Classes/backcountryclass/default.view> for details

(schedule, gear list, etc) and for access to the application. Note that applications will only be considered when submitted by the January 31st 2010 deadline.

We will have additional announcements and information for those that wish to help with instruction. If you have not helped out in previous years but are considering helping, please contact us so we get you on the instructor list.

For questions, please email the Co-Chairs at WAC-BC-CoChairs@yahoo.com

Let it Snow!

Cheers,

Ty, John & Mica
BC Class Co-Chairs

Kids Nordic Ski Classes

The Junior Nordic Program is a progressive program to teach children all-round skills for Nordic skiing. For ages 4 to 8, we focus on striding (classic) and downhill skills. Starting around age 8 or 9, kids learn to skate. Kids age 9 and older split their season between classic and skating styles. For kids under the age of 10, learning through games and adventure is very important. Kids in Treasure Trails, Little Nords, and Freeheelers will play a variety of games like treasure hunts, skiing off trail through the woods, playing soccer on skis, and having snowball fights all in the process of learning to ski well. When kids enter High Pros and are ready for directed technique coaching, they'll be solid striders and skaters. January to March.

Basic Climbing Class

Applications are now being accepted for the 2010 edition of the Washington Alpine Club Basic Class. This year's class will run from March 23rd through June 13th.

You can read details about the class, the schedule, the gear, and more at the class web site: <http://wacclass.org>

Now is the time to recruit yourself and your friends for the class. Tuition is still \$300, and WAC membership is required. Class applications will close January 15th, 2010.

We will be sending out more information for instructor meetings over the next two months. Expect the instructor meet and greet to be in February, with instructor training in March.

If you have questions about the class, or you are an experienced climber and are interested in helping teach the class, please contact us at wacclass-cochairs@yahoo.com.

Joanna, Jeff, and Mike
Your 2010 Climbing Class co-chairs

Copies of our flyers can be found here:

<http://wacclass.org/documents/brochure2010.pdf> -- two pages

<http://wacclass.org/documents/flyer2010.pdf> -- one page

Mountain Oriented First Aid Class

This year's MOFA Class completed last month. 28 students learned vital skills and are now American Red Cross and MOFA certified! Thanks to our First Aid Chair Scott Calhoun and the WAC instructors Chris Snow, John Sanford, Laurie Rich and Eileen Sliwinski. Also helping was Ken Hanh from the Mountaineers.

A huge thanks to Kristine Fyfe for preparing lunches and dinner for 35 people!

Want to help build the WAC MOFA program? We need more instructors! Sing up for the Winter Instructor Class below! We also will need someone to organize the class so the instructors can focus on teaching. And importantly we need some folks to help prepare the meals for the class.

MOFA Refresher Course

MOFA cards are valid for three years from the date of course completion. If you have a valid card and wish to update your skills and knowledge, you may enroll in a MOFA refresher. The course consists of three four-hour sessions two evenings a week, or a weekend (Saturday/Sunday- half day) and meets the requirements for ARC Standard First Aid as well as MOFA

March MOFA Refresher Class: Sun Mar. 14, 8am-4:30p, Tues Mar. 23, 6-10pm, and Sun Mar. 28, 8am-4:30p in Tacoma. Course fee (includes text book): \$80 members, \$105 non-members.

<http://www.mountaineers.org/source/atrips/viewTrip.cfm?event=20091&source=pop>

MOFA Instructor Class in Olympia

Join a winter MOFA and ARC Lay Responder FA/CPR/AED instructor course and help build the wilderness safety net while improving your first aid knowledge and skills.

The course is for two weekends in January. Dates and times: Sat Jan 9 8:30 am – 5 pm, Sun Jan 10 8:30 am – 5 pm Sat Jan 16 8:30 am – 5 pm, Sun Jan 17 8:30 am – 5 pm Location: Lacey Fire Station #34, 8407 Steilacoom Road SE, Olympia, WA 98513

The course includes Fundamentals of Instructor Training; American Red Cross CPR/AED and First Aid skills certification, MOFA skills testing; and the ARC/MOFA Instructor Course. Attendance at all sessions is required for course completion. Students completing the course will be certified as instructors for two courses; MOFA, and ARC CPR/AED/ First Aid Skills. Instructor manuals and teaching materials are included in the course. The course tuition of \$80.00 will be reimbursed upon completion by the WAC.

Sign up through The Mountaineers: on-line at <http://www.mountaineers.org/source/atrips/viewTrip.cfm?event=20358&source=pop>

Course# or call 800-573-8484. For questions contact Eric Quinn: email <mailto:traileq@ubrdo.com> or call 360-556-4969. NOTE: Enrollment minimums will be required for the courses to be held.



Wilderness First Responder Course

The University of Puget Sound will be offering a Wilderness First Responder Course on their campus down in Tacoma from Jan 9 to Jan 17, 2010. The cost is \$525 if postmarked by Dec 15 and \$575 afterward. This is an 80 hour course that goes into great detail about wilderness first aid and lots of scenarios. If you are still in school, you MIGHT be able to earn 3 hours of college credit depending on your college. If you're not still in school, this is considered by many to be the gold standard of wilderness first aid classes. You will have the knowledge to be a really good first aider in the backcountry.

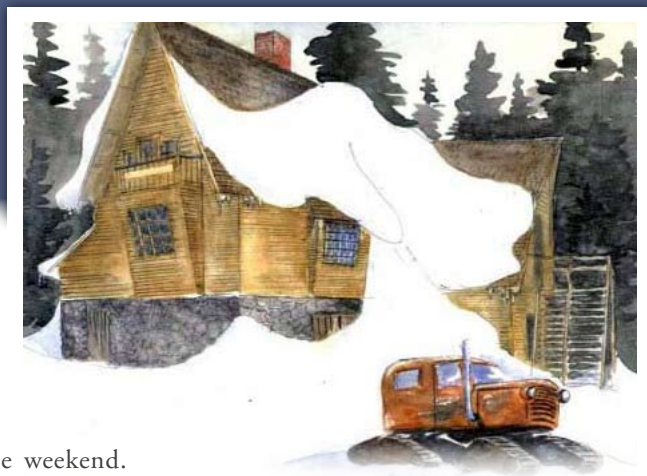
Check out this website for more information:

<http://www.pugetsound.edu/student-life/student-activities/puget-sound-outdoors/leadership-training/wilderness-first-aid-training/wfr-course-information>

This course is not affiliated with the WAC, but I'd like to know if you take it.

Scott Calhoun

GUYE CABIN



If you come up to Guye Cabin for a couple of hours, the day, or the night, we need your help!

Please read on all the way through..... and then spread around!

Can I park wherever I want?

No. Why not? It costs a fortune to plow, and we are lucky enough that our neighbors, Sahalie manage the plowing for us. All we have to do is out part!

Parking is limited! Have a WAC sticker on your car, or a parking pass on the dash. (Sorry for the big font, but this is very important!) **Park only on our side south of the Fire Hydrant... or at the far North end of the Sahalie side.**

If you encounter the Public let them know about the fantastic sledding area at the iron Horse Trail Snowpark, Exit 54!

Things you can do to help

Carpool

Upon arrival:

- If you bring guests in a separate car or you come with a group, shuttle all but one car over to West. Keep the cars parked tight together.
- Always leave an empty space for unloading
- Do not let the public park in our area! Send them away! (Everyone that parks in our spaces is one less space that we have)
- Going skiing for the day? Take your car.
- Cooperate when we ask to move cars for plowing, asked by Sahalie, or for any reason
- Be very careful parking on Friday as they plow to get ready for the weekend.
- Make friends with the neighbors- the Sahalie folks! There are very nice too.

Step up to be the hosts for the weekend. Between now and New Years send an email to the Waclist letting others know you will be up and have the Cabin open, and make sure things go smoothly.

Want to help? Volunteer to be the host for the weekend, or for the day.

At the Cabin:

Day use or overnight? It is the same procedure.

First thing, sign in your party and pay your fees. You are responsible for your guests and everyone you bring along so fill them in on how things work, introduce them, and take care of them.

Unfortunately, we don't have a dorm mom, or cleaning crew, so everyone who visits (members, guests, and kids) should pitch in to keep the place in ship shape.

Everyone needs to do some kind of chore. Pick up all the stuff left outside and on the bunny hill. Re-stock the wood closet, sweep, mop, do the windows, shovel snow (the steps front and back need to be shoveled each weekend to get weight off them, the fire hydrant at the street should be cleared), wipe all the tables, clean the bathrooms. Just like you would at your home! Take the trash, compost and recycle home with you when you leave. (we have no trash service)

Courtesy:

The dorms are not play areas. During the day there might be people that would like some quiet time, or to take a nap. (One of the best naps I ever had was at Guye Cabin) People are tired after a whole day on the snow, or want to get

up in time for first tracks, so lights are out in all the dorms at 9 am. Be aware that people are sleeping and reduce the activity and noise after 9. Have your bunk ready well before 9. Bring a headlight.

Play areas are the basement, ping pong room, and outside! Keep an eye on the kids, the kitchen is not a good play area.

Keep the doors closed. It is a fire prevention requirement. Also, we don't need to have our new efficient furnaces running to heat the hallway or the outside.

This should be obvious but no audio devices such as DVD players, radios, etc should be brought up. We need to hear the natural quiet if we can.

Much of the cider, tea, hot chocolate, coffee, etc are brought up by people and left to be enjoyed by others. Follow this wonderful example. (Check first to make sure your gift is needed) (All this stuff too >>>> Mops, brooms, dustpans, dish towels, pot holders, cups, pans, pots) Ever wondered how the dish towels got cleaned? Someone takes them home and washes them!

Guye Cabin is a magical place, and many of us have enjoyed its renaissance and rebirth for the last several years. My favorite part of the Cabin experience is meeting and getting to know many of the wonderful people that visit Guye Cabin. It is our WAC home, and everyone should treat the Cabin with respect, and behave as they would in their own home. Please do your part to maintain the special mountain atmosphere that folks like us have enjoyed since 1932.

MEMBERSHIP

Its time to renew your membership!

It is that time of year to renew your membership in the WAC! Most memberships will expire at the end of this month, unless you have previously selected a multi-year renewal. The WAC is an all volunteer group of outdoor oriented like minded folks participating in a healthy lifestyle. Thank you all for your commitment and dedication to the Washington Alpine Club. We look forward to welcoming you back for another year.

We are excited to offer an online payment option this year. Please take a look at the How

to Renew tab on the website and complete your renewal for 2010. <http://www.wacweb.org/About/renew.view> Thanks to Eli Holmes and Toby Young for putting this together and bringing us into the world of online payments!

Of course there is still an option to pay via check. Whatever is most convenient for you.

Thanks again and don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Kristin

Annual Dues (renewals)

	Regular	Senior	Out of State
Through Dec 2010	\$30	\$15	\$20
Through Dec 2011	\$60	\$25	\$35
Through Dec 2012	\$85	\$35	\$50
Through Dec 2013	\$115	\$45	\$65
Through Dec 2014	\$135	\$55	\$80

Please consider adding an additional gift to your membership renewal check. Your contribution will help us with scholarships and major upcoming cabin expenses including construction of the new parking lot. Thanks for supporting your club!

Please send your check today made out to "WAC", to:

Washington Alpine Club
c/o Kristin Kaupang
7712 14th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98106

Cabin Fees

When renewing, members also have the opportunity to pay annual Guye Cabin fees in lieu of single day or overnight fees. These annual cabin fees are effective for the membership year.

Annual Cabin Dues

\$70.00 per person
\$100.00 for two people
\$120.00 for three or more family members (13 and older)

Welcome New Members

Erik Hagstrom	Alexandra Ruskin
Peter Hellenbrand	David Balzer
Andrew Oakley	Peter Beveridge
Shane Sullivan	Amy Cisler
Doug Walsh	Elizabeth Gay
Erin Nelson	Alan Haynie
Ida Ottesen	Alicia Kramer
Onie Greiling	Maureen Meehan
Lena Krutemeyer	Anne Presecan
Ella Osborn	Philip Rouse
Hart Smith	Ian Turek
Heather Sutter	Martina Widmann
Kenneth Walkky	John Jansen
Alexandra Hart	Eric Mandel
Dale Travis	Elizabeth Visconti
Ada Chan	Raechel Waters
Laura Raymond	

Is Your Contact Info Current?

You can check these things on the Washington Alpine Club website: www.wacweb.org. If your address or email address changes please let us know!

Moving?

Send change of address forms to:
Washington Alpine Club
PO Box 352
Seattle, WA 98111

Or email Dave Mitchell at:
dtmitch@mindspring.com

New Email Address?

To update your email address log on to www.wacweb.org. If you don't have an account, you can use the shared name and password:
User name: climbing
Password: climbon

SNOWSHOEING



... Snowshoeing, continued from Page 1

Forest Service led trips

Guided Forest Service snowshoe walks on Snoqualmie Pass offer a chance to experience winter's beauty while learning about snowshoeing and winter ecology. This moderately paced walk meanders through extraordinary old growth forest that opens to occasional views of surrounding snow-capped peaks.

This year the walks will be January 8 through March every Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The walks generally last 90 minutes. Group size is limited to 20 people and reservations are required. Children under the age of 10 cannot be accommodated. Snowshoes are provided for all walks. In order to offset the costs of the program, a \$10 donation per person is suggested. Please dress for winter weather; hats, gloves, sturdy, waterproof boots, and insulating layered clothing are recommended.

Also offered is a longer snowshoe hike for those interested in a half-day outing in Gold Creek Basin. These walks will be led by Forest Service volunteers three days this winter and group size is limited to six participants. The dates for these extended tours are January 16, January 29, and February 6. These ventures require a higher level of fitness and winter preparedness; please call for more information.

For more information or to make reservations call the Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Information Center at (425) 434-6111, Friday thru Monday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On your own at Snoqualmie Pass

Amabilis Mountain

8 miles 2,100' gain 4,554' high point

This trip starts at Exit 63 (Cabin Creek). Park

on south side. Walk north across I-90 to F.S. Rd. 4826. Start snowshoeing on the right-hand side (not on!) of the groomed x-c tracks on this road. About ¼ mile along this road past the Kongsberger ski cabin, turn right onto F.S. Rd. 4822 and start climbing! Stay to the right, when going up the road, as there might be skiers coming down. Give them the right-of-way. Cross a small creek. At approximately 2 miles., you reach a fork.

If you go left (clockwise), this is the shorter route to the top. At approximately 3 miles, cross a road and head up to the ridge crest. Turn right, and follow to the actual summit. If you go to the right back at the 2-mile fork, this is the longer of the two routes to get to the top--or join the two to make a loop (some navigational skills needed to complete this loop). Views of Lake Keechelus Valley and the South Cascades to the south & Three Queens Mts. to the north. Sno-Park groomed parking permit required.

Commonwealth Basin

4-5 miles 1,000' gain 4,000' high point

This trip starts out near the Exit 52 interchange. Park in the parking lot for the Summit West ski area or park along S.R. 906 east of the Visitor Center. Cross the road & walk west, along the snow bank underneath the I-90 overpass. As the road bends past the overpass, you need to walk up the snow bank to get into the Pacific Crest North parking lot area.

From here, you are on your way to go up the basin. Good navigational skills are most helpful. You are in a heavy forest canopy but can follow alongside the banks of Commonwealth Creek (on the west side) and use this as your landmark. Views of Guye Peak are to the west, and Red Mt. to the north. At approximately 2.5 mi., the valley narrows enough that you will eventually have to cross Commonwealth Creek. This is a

good turnaround point before crossing the creek! There can be high avalanche danger up the basin beyond the creek.

Keechelus Ridge

6.5 miles 2,100' gain 4,900' high point

Take Exit 62 eastbound, I-90. Go north over the interchange & then head back west on I-90 approximately 1-1/2 mi. to the "Price Creek W. Sno-Park" exit 61. (There is no other way to access this Sno-Park if you come from the west.) A small trail leads northwest, from the Sno-Park to F.S. Rd. 4832. Head west on this road a couple hundred feet. Climb to the north onto a small side road, F.S. Rd. 124.

This road climbs steeply up the sides of Keechelus Ridge alongside Price Creek for ½ mi. before heading west away from the creek. The best "cross-country" trail is approximately 1.3 miles out of the Sno-Park. Snowshoe up the slope away from the snowmobile track, staying right when the road goes left. Parallel Price Creek as you go uphill but stay on bench above creek. Go approximately 1 mile before crossing F.S. Rd. 4934, just below ridge crest at 4,300'. Merge with F.S. Rd. 124 to make loop. This trip is for snowshoers who like to climb! Sno-Park ungroomed parking permit required.

Kendall Peak Lakes

7-9 miles 1,700' gain 4,400' high point

Take Exit 54 off I-90. Go north underneath I-90 straight to the Gold Creek Sno-Park. This route heads up F.S. Rd. 9090 straight on the west side of Gold Creek Valley and up towards Kendall Peak Lakes. Good views of Rampart Ridge on the east side of Gold Creek Valley, north towards Alta Mt. & Chikamin Ridge, & south towards the ski areas, Mt. Catherine, and even Mt. Rainier from the top! At approximately 1-3/4 mi. the road takes a sharp right hairpin turn.



The left spur road. gives you views of the ski areas. If you stay to the right, this proceeds up towards the lakes. The road heads east and then north., as it stays on the west side of the crest. Switchback turns at approximately 2.5 & 3.5 miles. Stay to the north& follow Coal Creek at approximately 4-1/4 mi. keeping the creek on your left (west side) to the lower Kendall Peak Lake. Try not to approach the 3rd lake, as this is extremely steep and very avalanche prone. Sno-Park ungroomed parking permit required.

Lower Gold Creek Basin

6-7 miles 400' gain 3,000' high point

Take Exit 54 off I-90. Go north. under overpass a few hundred yards and turn right onto F.S. Rd. 4832 & head east approximately 1 mile. on this road that parallels the westbound lanes of I-90. Park along the shoulders of the road near the small bridge, which is over the outlet of Mardee Lake as it goes into Lake Keechelus. Snowshoe north onto F.S. Rd. 142 to enter the east side of this valley. This valley starts at approximately 1 mile in width and continues to narrow as you proceed up the valley on the east side of Gold Creek.

You will see Kendall Peak to the northwest, Rampart Ridge to the east., Alta Mt. on the northeast, & Chikamin Ridge to the north. Part of this route travels through private residential property in Ski-Tur Valley. Please respect private property and do not trespass on driveways or property. Avalanche slide paths are on either side of the valley off the Kendall Peak area on the west or Rampart Ridge area on the east. Try to stay in the middle of the valley as much as possible or follow the creek up the valley. As the valley narrows at approximately 3.5 mi. at the creek, you will find this to be a good turnaround point rather than crossing creek! Sno-Park ungroomed parking permit required.

Mount Margaret

9 miles 2,800' gain 3,600' high point

Views of Lake Keechelus and Mt. Catherine to the south and the east side of Snoqualmie Pass. Take Exit 54 & turn north, proceeding under the I-90 overpass. Go a few hundred yards and then turn east onto F.S. Rd. 4832, which parallels the westbound lanes of I-90. Proceed to where the road ends by a snow-bermed turnaround. Park on the shoulder side of the road--do not block the turnaround. Follow the road southeast for approximately 1.5 miles from the snow-bermed road end. The road follows curves around the base of Rampart Ridge.

After crossing Wolfe Creek, the road climbs and switches back. At approximately 3.2 miles, the road splits. The left fork continues to climb another 1/2 mile to approximately 3,600' and the trailhead to the Mt. Margaret hike. Stay to the east side of the clearing as you proceed up hill. Can continue to the ridge crest then to the north. The last 1/2 mile is in the trees all the way to the crest/ridge just below the true summit of Mt. Margaret & you will be able to see Lake Margaret below and the Mt. Stuart range to the northeast. Sno-Park ungroomed parking permit required.

Talapus Lake

8.5 miles 1,600' gain 3,280' high point

Take Exit 45 (F.S. Rd. 9030) off I-90. Go north and follow F.S. Rd. 9030 west 1 mile until the junction with F.S. Rd. 9031. You may have to park down at this junction, depending on snow level and where it has been plowed. Follow F.S. Rd. 9030 to the right approximately 2.5 miles up to the Talapus Lake trailhead. You will go through some switchbacks. You will have occasional views of Bandera Mt., as well as Granite Mt. to the east. After about a mile on the actual trail (3.5 miles), you will come to Talapus Creek

and will be following it approximately 3/4 mile to the lake. Be aware of avalanche potential near the lake. If the avalanche danger is "moderate to high", stay away from lake basin area. Northwest Forest Pass required.

Hurricane Ridge

One-mile walks on Hurricane Ridge, led by park naturalist Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, as well as Martin Luther King Day and Presidents Day, all at 2 p.m., weather permitting. Snowshoes provided. A \$2 donation is suggested (in addition to park entrance fee of \$10 per car). Register at Hurricane Ridge visitor center one hour before walk. Organized groups must make reservations by calling 360-452-0330.

Paradise

Snowshoe walks in the Paradise area, led by park naturalist Saturdays and Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., weather permitting. Sign up at Jackson Memorial Visitor Center at Paradise, beginning one hour before walk. Snowshoes provided. Organized groups must reserve dates by calling 360-569-2211, Ext. 3314. Park entrance fee is \$10 per car.

More Information

The snowshoe routes listed above are neither marked nor maintained *. You should always carry a map, compass, & other 10 Essentials and also have good route-finding skills when venturing into the backcountry. Always be dressed for winter weather and be prepared for winter driving conditions when traveling in snow country. Always check ahead for avalanche conditions by calling the N.W. Avalanche Hotline: (206) 526-6677.

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

WAC Winter Events

New Snow Dinner

December 12 6:00 p.m.

This event will help to guarantee a good snow-pack for the winter. Gino and Kathy Amodei will cook a main course and all the rest of us pitch in with potluck dishes, sides, vegetables, appetizers, deserts, drinks etc. Do you have a specialty dish that you want to share? Spend the day at the pass, then come for Dinner. We have a terrific Slideshow and music afterwards.

Commonwealth Basin Snowshoe

January 10

Join the WAC's Snowshoe Chair Jonathan Pryce at 10am on this annual foray up Commonwealth

Basin in the WAC's backyard. RSVP as group size is limited to 12. We are also looking for folks to help lead, sweep, etc.

WAC Fun Day

Sunday February 28

The winter games of the WAC, we have snowshoe and ski races on the WAC Trail System. Snacks and prizes. Fun for all kids and adults alike.

Vegetarian Potluck

March 06

Bring your best vegetarian dish to share for this annual winter tradition at Guye Cabin.

Dinner at 6 pm after a day of fun in the snow.

Snoqualmie Loppet Ski Tour

March 14

A winter highlight! Come join the annual 35K "Citizen's Race" from Silver Fir to Cabin Creek. We ride the lift up as soon as they open, ski the Mount Catherine Loop, do the long and flat Iron Horse, a short loop through the Troll Hagen, then a loop around Cabin Creek to the finish. Everyone must be self sufficient. Shorter options available.



Washington Alpine Club

P.O. Box 352

Seattle, WA 98111

Address Correction Requested

Do Not Forward

FIRST CLASS

TO: