

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB | BULLETIN

April 2010 | Volume 93, Issue 4



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.

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WAC Fun Day Winners!

WAC Fun Day Recap

This year's WAC Fun Day on Feb 28 was a roaring success with great weather, twice as many competitors as last year, thrilling race finishes, a great treasure hunt and lots of silliness and fun!

The ski race this year tested everyone's skills as the course resembled an obstacle course more than anything else. All ten competitors in the ski division should be proud of their survival ski

skills! While the ski division required bravery and fast fall-recovery skills, the snowshoe division required endurance, hard work, and the ability to put snowshoes back on quickly. Congrats to the eight snowshoe racers! Also notable this year, we had four kid competitors, one skier and three snowshoers. The treasure hunts were...

continued on page 4

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 Calendar

April	
1	Board Meeting
17-18	Olympic Beach Cleanup
May	
8	Guye Cabin Work Party
14-16	Alpine Climbs at Snoqualmie Pass
21-23	Alpine Climbs at Snoqualmie Pass
Looking Ahead	
June 12	Guye Cabin Summer Work Party
July 12-16	Summit Endurance Running Camp
July 17	Guye Cabin Summer Work Party
August 14	Guye Cabin Summer Work Party
August 14	WAC Summer BBQ (3:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
September 11	Guye Cabin Summer Work Party
October 16	Guye Cabin Fall Work Party
October 17	Annual Members Meeting

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: climb0n

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@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe:

waclist-subscribe@yahoogroups.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.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

April 2010

by Mike Mahanay

After a prolonged dry spell we are now getting the fabled spring snows. As everyone is switching to climbing, cycling, running, and other spring activities we are receiving some excellent new snow. The snow is heavy and wet with the possibility of increased avalanche conditions. Check on avalanche conditions before you head out to the backcountry. It is Spring after all and any weather can happen.- Daylight savings time has started, and the snow will begin to melt quickly very soon.

The WAC has a large ever growing nordic division. Eli Holmes is the director of the nordic kids and juniors program. This program is extremely successful. We also recently completed the third Snoqualmie Loppet from Silver Fir to Cabin Creek, a distance of 21 miles. We had about 12 participants this year. Will you be up for the challenge next year?

The WAC had a great season of backcountry, downhill, telemark, nordic, and boarding! We saw folks of all disciplines at Guye Cabin every weekend. It is bittersweet that all the classes are over and ski season is quickly winding down. The ski areas are week to week.

This was a very good winter at Guye Cabin! The Cabin hosted the Snow Dinner, Vegetarian Potluck, Winter Backcountry Travel Class, Climbing

Class Instructors Training, Snoqualmie Loppet, several school groups and the winter finale- the WAC Fun Day (ski and snowshoe events)!

The winter is an excellent time to travel and WAC folks are known not to let the dust settle. They have been seen all over the West this winter. Whistler for the Olympics, Hut skiing in the Rockies, Lake Tahoe, Sun Valley, West Yellowstone, and Ouray Colorado are just a few of the places we have been to over the last few months.

As we move into Spring it is time to start putting those Summer Peak lists together. Many members are hoping to complete the Chief Six Peaks this season by climbing the Snoqualmie Peaks.

The WAC Climbing Class is off to a great start! The next two weekends will see the class at Spire Rock, followed by trips to Snoqualmie Pass, the Nisqually Glacier at Mount Rainier, and then a climb of Mount Baker. Thanks to everyone who volunteers to make this class a great success each year! There is no better place in the Pacific Northwest to learn to climb than the Washington Alpine Club!

Our Club is one of the sponsors for the annual Olympic Coast Beach Cleanup on April 17 & 18. This is the premier Spring event. As always,



we are responsible for the Hoh River Beach and Jefferson Cove to the North. Hoh River Beach is where the Hoh River empties into the Pacific Ocean. If you have been out to our Olympic Coast, you know what a beautiful, wonderful, and wild area it is. Like last year, we'll camp Saturday night on the Beach. Please contact me if you would like to participate in this event, or have questions about it.

With the warm Spring weather we'll begin our work parties at Guye Cabin. This year we will have one work parties on the second or third Saturday of every month through October. Our first Work Party will be May 08! Come on up for the day to help out, to play, or to hike the trails. We hope to work on some windows, doors, and floors. Come up and help out if you have the time! This is a great way to meet some new people in the WAC and invest in the Club's future. Check the website for the dates. Please call or email and let me know you are coming.

As we transition to the warmer weather please keep the WAC in your plans. The Climbing Class will be going into June, there will also be work parties and events at Guye Cabin, and an assortment of climbs, hikes, skis, and bike rides to participate in!

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 on the right to visit the WAC Page.



WAC COMMUNITY NEWS

WAC Fun Day

continued from page 1

...enjoyed by many kids (I lost count how many), and we had many spectators who cheered everyone on. At the end, we had an official medal ceremony for the ski, adult snowshoe, and kid snowshoe winners, complete with a spiffy podium (see the pictures).

Special thanks to the many volunteers who helped with race course grooming, the treasure hunt, and set-up! Thanks also to Winthrop Mtn Sports and OR who donated gear for the raffle!

In addition to the overall winners and division winners, we have two special awards this year.

The Petra Majdic Award goes to Melissa, who, despite sliding off course into a tree well, getting stuck, and having to remove her skis to escape, got back on her skis and finished the course!

The Sportsmanship Award goes to Matthew Tang whose name was pulled first for the second year in a row in the gear raffle/give-away. Being first, he could pick the beautiful new kids' skate skis. But he got skis last year in the raffle and he knew Nicole (who had narrowly beaten him in the snowshoe race) also wanted the new skis and didn't have any yet. Matthew took the skis, but gave them to Nicole! Way to go, Matthew!

Overall Winners

Ski Race

1. Jiri Pertold, 7min
2. Eli Holmes, 7min
3. Jake Zikan, 9min

Snowshoe Race, Adults

1. Chris Sargent, 11min
2. Scott Rankin, 13min
3. King Tang, 16min



Snowshoe Race, Kids

1. Nicole Wolman, 17min
2. Matthew Tang, 17min
3. Nathaniel Nichol, 21min

Divisional Winners

Divisions are self-selected and have nothing to do with age

Young and Fearless

1. Jiri Pertold, 7min, ski
2. Jake Zikan, 9min, ski
3. Chris Sargent, 11min, snowshoe
4. King Tang, 16min, snowshoe
5. Matthew Tang, 17min, snowshoe
6. Nathaniel Nichol, 21min, snowshoe

Old Enough to Know Better

1. Jeff Wright, 9min, ski
2. Victoria Stepitova, 12min, ski
3. Jeff Sargent, 20min, snowshoe
4. John Sargent, 27min, snowshoe

Not Quite Old Enough to Know Better

1. Josh Woods, 9min, ski
2. Ann Boyd, 11min, ski
3. Melissa, 13min, ski
3. Scott Rankin, 13min, snowshoe

Still Crazy

1. Eli Holmes, 7min, ski
2. Magdalena Pertoldova, 11min, ski
3. Scott Viers, 11min, ski
4. Nicole Wolman, 17min, snowshoe

► Photos: <http://picasaweb.google.com/e2holmes/WACFunDay2010#>

► Missed the WAC Fun Day races?
You can live (or relive) the excitement in the feature online movie!
<http://www.facebook.com/v/885272869018>

Work Parties Begin in May

This year we would like to see if we can find folks to commit to working on certain projects at the cabin on specific weekends. This will allow us to have the materials and helpers etc they need to accomplish the tasks.

Here is the list we would like to do this summer. Some are must dos, and others are nice to have. Sign up with Mike or Archie.

Replace remaining existing windows.

The six we did last year made a tremendous difference! Kitchen (2), Family room (4 or 5), Men's dorm (1 or 2), Women's dorm (2), Stairwell window (2 now, can we make it 1), Fireplace Room (2) -- can we do this?

Troubleshoot/upgrade kitchen wiring (at least on the cabinet wall) - might need to tear open the wall

New Wood stove in kitchen / New fireplace insert in Fireplace Room (Dale Ott)

New balcony door in women's dorm

New French door to Fireplace room

Refinish floor in family Dorm (John Sargent)

Bathrooms

Replace sinks and faucets; replace toilets with low flow toilets; shower room repair drywall and replace or remove wall paper

Hot water tanks

Replace kitchen hot water tank; replace and move hot water tank in men's bathroom to work room (its leaking)

Normal summer work

Chainsaw rounds / Split wood; trail work / yard work; paint/repair outside Cabin

Guye Cabin Work Party Dates!

May 8

June 12

July 17

August 14 (plus WAC Summer BBQ)

September 11

October 16

October 17 (Annual Meeting)

Define Your Role in the WAC

As our membership grows, requests for new programs and activities create leadership and support needs. These needs are opportunities for you to develop skills in leading, teaching, organizing, or facilitating events and activities. They are opportunities to make new friends, work on issues that you care about, and experience adventures with like-minded people.

We need trip leaders and co-leaders, mentors, writers, and photographers. We need people

to help with administrative tasks such as book-keeping, publicity, scheduling, and enhancing/managing the web site. We need you--and whatever skills you bring

If you have a skill and some time, consider volunteering. You are invited! Inquiries about Leadership Training are also welcomed. Just send an e-mail to anyone on the Board or any of the Class Chairs or to me – Mike Mahanay mike-mahanay@gmail.com

Obituary

Our friend and long time WAC member Jim Mossman passed away on February 20, 2010. Jim was a Western Washington native, and attended the University of Washington. His first ski trip to Camp Muir was on a day off from classes at UW. He donated the skins from this trip to the WAC. Jim loved the sea and spent much of his life sailing the seven seas and seeing the world. He lived for a while in Germany before moving back to Seattle. Jim was an avid skier and even in his 60s and 70s would ski 2-3 days a week. He never missed a chance to get to the mountains and especially liked to volunteer at Guye Cabin focusing on the detail work. One year he single-handedly split and stacked almost the entire winter wood supply! Typical Jim, he used precision and skill rather than force. Jim was super reliable, and always there when you needed him. We will miss him.

Letter from Barbara Killerlain

As a member of the WAC for over 50 years I do want to keep up to date! Some of you may remember Virginia Ames Schmidt and Barbara Ames Killerlain (Referred to as the Ames twins). We were both active in the WAC until about 1952 when I took a job with the army in Munich, Germany. Virginia followed about a year later and landed in Heidelberg. I spent 10 years in Germany then transferred to the Air Force- working in Denver, San Francisco, & Albuquerque, retiring after 36 years of civilian service. We both married ex-military and both lost our husbands so we decided to get together in Colorado Springs, CO living at "Liberty Heights" a lovely retirement facility overlooking the Air Force Academy. We each have our independent apartments and for the first time in years spend a lot of time together.

Barbara: billbarb@comcast.net

CONSERVATION

Olympic Coast Beach Cleanup: Oil City/Jefferson Cove - April 17-18, 2010

The ninth year of this annual event.

Jefferson Cove is a beautiful low tide beach about a mile long. At the North end is the first ladder and the route over the big Hoh Head that eventually makes its way to Third Beach, some 17 miles distant. Hoh Head can never be rounded, even at an extreme low tide. It is 1.5 miles to the low tide beach at the North side of Hoh Head, and 3.5 miles by trail to Mosquito Creek.

You are invited to participate in a grand adventure: to join others in removing debris from Olympic National Park for Earth Day! We will camp at the Hoh Beach on Saturday evening, about two miles from the trailhead. Some folks come just for the day on Saturday.

Contact Mike Mahanay at mikemahanay@gmail.com to register. We will again do the Oil City Beach and Jefferson Cove Beach south of Forks. Every year we see Bald Eagles, seals, and lots of life in the tidepools. We even saw Gray whales on their migration to Alaska from Baja! Our goal this year is 10 volunteers. We would like firm commitments by April 10, but of course will take late comers up to the last minute.

The clean up is energized by a partnership of community service organizations, businesses, tribal and government agencies. Volunteers will comb ocean beaches from Kalaloch South Beach in Olympic National Park to Hobuck Beach on the Makah Reservation. Marine debris will be hauled off the beaches and piled at trailheads for disposal. This community/volunteer effort will help preserve the natural beauty of this unparalleled Washington wilderness resource.



"The wildest, the most remote and, I think, the most picturesque beach area of our whole coastline lies under the pounding surf along the Pacific Ocean in the State of Washington . . . It is a place of haunting beauty, of deep solitude."

- William O. Douglas

Beaches easily accessible by car or a short hike are appropriate for a one-day outing. Some beaches will require a single overnight stay. More remote beaches will require a several day commitment from volunteers with no-trace wilderness back-packing skills.

WAC volunteers should register at the field operation site at the Forks Information Center, or at the Olympic National Park Ranger Stations at Kalaloch.

Please RSVP.

► For more information: <http://www.grandcanyontreks.org/olympic2.htm>

Index Town Wall Fundraising - WAC Gift Matching

As most of you know the Washington Climbers Coalition (WCC) is working in conjunction with the Access Fund to raise \$300,000 to purchase the Index Lower Town Wall crag and surrounding lands and ensure climbing access is permitted in perpetuity. For more details on this effort please see: <http://www.washington-climbers.org/IndexFund/>

The board of directors for the Washington Alpine Club has generously decided to allocate \$1000 to match donations to this cause by its members. As such we will be matching donations for the first 10 WAC members to donate \$100 to the Index Climbing Fund.

To take advantage of this, please do the following:

1. Make a donation at <http://www.washington-climbers.org/IndexFund/> for \$100 or more.
2. Send me (Andrew Sullivan) a copy of your PayPal receipt.
3. Once we receive 10 donations the WAC will match these donations with \$1000.

Thanks in advance for your support of the Index Lower Town Wall.

Andrew, Mark, and Pat

[Donate Now!](#)

“Preservation Of Wilderness Is Not A Simple Matter...”

Beginning in early April, Seattle's KCTS 9 Television will air a half hour version of Crest Pictures' latest documentary, The Irate Birdwatcher. (April 01/05/11) The film features the insightful and often poetic words of Harvey Manning – the legendary Northwest writer (famous for the 100 Hikes series and Mountaineering : Freedom of the Hills) and staunch conservationist. In the early '60s Manning (using the pen name “Irate Birdwatcher”) became the voice of a dedicated band of hikers and climbers, turned conservationists, who spearheaded the grassroots movement that brought us the North Cascades National Park, as well as other designated wilderness areas, including the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. His writing was also instrumental in passing the Washington Wilderness Act of 1984.

The movie follows Harvey through decades as he unveils the beauty of Washington's wildest places and discovers the need to stand up and fight for their very survival.

While the film is first and foremost about wilderness preservation, it is also a moving testament to Harvey, the man and his work. As an avid climber and backpacker he spent a lifetime roaming our local peaks and valleys, and writing passionately about them and his causes. Harvey was a visionary and crusader. David Brower, the first executive director of the Sierra Club and prominent environmentalist, pronounced him, “Hero of the Earth.” Others consider him the John Muir of the Pacific Northwest.

For additional background information, including the film synopsis, bios and promotional stills, go to the Media page on the Birdwatcher website: http://www.crestpictures.com/irate_birdwatcher

The film in its entirety, along with a few bonus features, is available on DVD at: <http://www.crestpictures.com/store.html>

KCTS is Seattle's PBS and broadcasts on Channel 9 in Western Washington.

See the film:

Thursday, April 1 at 10:30pm
Monday, April 5 at 4:30am
Sunday, April 11 at 6:00pm

WAC Announces Education Grants

by Toby Young

The Board has approved a new program for WAC members and it is ready to be rolled-out. The program is to be known simply enough as "WAC Grant." Anyone currently a member of the WAC is eligible to apply.

The WAC Grant program provides money to club members for education and training in areas that are consistent with the mission of the WAC and which are not duplicated through some activity currently offered by WAC. The intention of this program is to encourage members to improve their skill set in outdoor recreational activities and then bring those new skills back into the club to teach others and thereby improve the overall quality of instruction of our own courses. This program is not intended to fund personal climbing trips or expeditions.

Obvious examples for training that would be eligible are avalanche education beyond Level I and wilderness medicine training above and beyond MOFA. Again, these are just examples.

Additional information on this program as well as the application are on the WAC website (www.wacweb.org) and are be found under the Members --> Official Information menu. Or simply click on this link: <http://www.wacweb.org/Members/Official/default.view>

The "WAC Grant" program is currently funded for the duration of this fiscal year and that runs through September 30, 2009. At the end of the fiscal year the Board will decide whether to continue the program based on past interest and the ability to fund the program without negatively impacting existing obligations.



If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about this program, please send e-mail to: treasurer@washingtonalpinedclub.org

Toby Young

Northwest Avalanche Center Snowball Dinner and Auction

by John Commiskey

As most of you know, I currently serve on the Board of the Friends of the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center (FOAC). I'm sure you are all familiar with the NWAC <http://www.nwac.us/>, and use their forecasts on the new website on a regular basis. FOAC's mission is to support the NW Avalanche Center and to provide public education and awareness about avalanches and avalanche safety. Whether you use ski areas or the back-country as your playground, the work of the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center (NWAC) is critical to your safety in the mountains.

I'm writing to ask for your support by attending the 2nd Annual Friends of NWAC Snowball Dinner and Auction On Friday, April 16th. This spring's end-of-the-season celebration to support the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center will be at St. Demetrios Hall in the Montlake neighborhood of Seattle. Join your friends and familiar faces at this evening of live and silent auctions, as well as a delicious dinner, all for a great cause! Seating is limited and last year's event sold out. Tickets are \$70.

If you are interested, please reply to me and I'll coordinate tickets.

Thanks in advance for your help!

John Commiskey
john_commiskey@hotmail.com

Spring MOFA Instructor Course

Help the WAC build its Wilderness First Aid Program by enhancing your skills, and helping to teach the annual MOFA class held the first part of November each year.

Join a Spring MOFA and ARC Lay Responder FA/CPR/AED instructor course to be held on weekends.

Dates (all are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Sat. May 1st, Sun. May 2nd

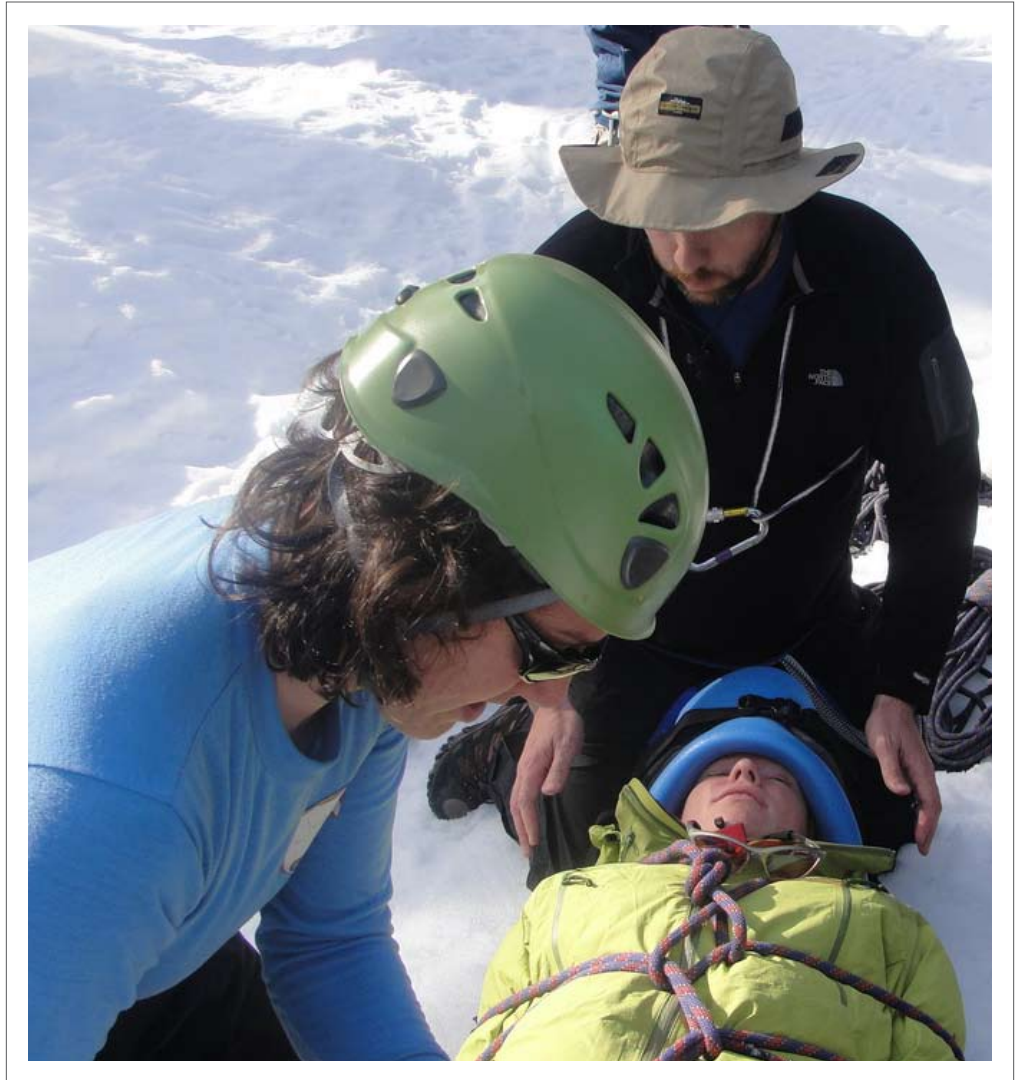
Sat. May 8th

Sat. May 15th

The course includes:

Fundamentals of Instructor Training (5/1); American Red Cross CPR/AED and First Aid skills certification and MOFA skills testing (5/1-2); and the ARC/MOFA Instructor Course (5/8, 5/15). Location: Mountaineers Headquarters, 7700 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle 98115. The course tuition of \$80.00 will be reimbursed by the WAC. (If you are already an American Red Cross instructor you may be excused from part of the May 1st session.) Sign up through The Mountaineers website: www.mountaineers.org. Course# 21368. For questions, contact Karl Brackmann Email k.brackmann@verizon.net or call 425-788-8947. NOTE: Enrollment minimums will be required for the course to be held.

If you can not make the dates for this course, but are interested in remaining on the “potential instructor list” for future MOFA Instructor courses, you don’t need to do anything. If you wish to be taken off the list, please contact Carol Sue Ivory-Carline by phone at 206-522-5347 or reply to this email: carolsic@umich.edu



Climbing Class: Instructor Training

On March 20 & 21, instructors from the Basic Climbing Class made their way up to Guye Cabin for Instructor Training. Saturday was training for new instructors and Sunday for returning instructors.

New instructors practiced teaching belay and rappel techniques. Then, on Sunday, returning instructors got a MOFA overview, splinting seminar, and an avalanche primer, before heading outside to practice evacuation techniques.

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

North Cascade Bike Challenge, May 22-23

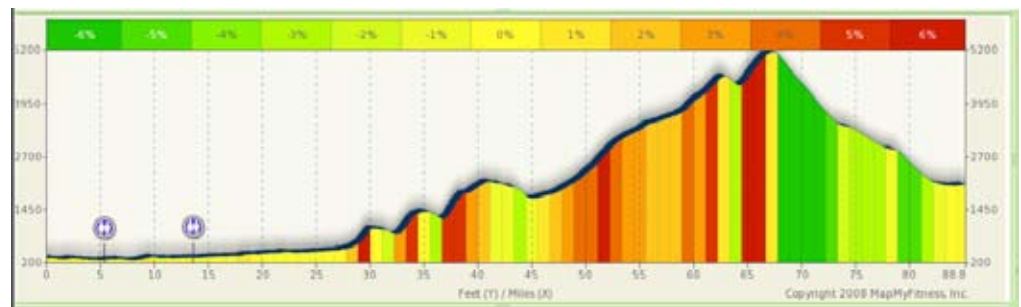
By John Sargent

Day 1: Mount Vernon to Diablo, 72 miles. Ride will begin 8 am Saturday morning at Skagit Valley Community College. We will pedal 31 miles through the Skagit flats before crossing the river at the town of Concrete. From Concrete we pedal another 41 miles on Hwy 20 to the towns of Rockport, Marblemount, Newhalem and finally Diablo. Saturday night we'll stay at Colonial Creek Campground.

Day 2: Diablo to Mazama, 50 miles: Twice the fun with only half the Bag Balm, two passes in one day, we start the morning with an ascent up 4,855 foot Rainy Pass and then we'll go down briefly and then back up to the higher Washington Pass at 5,477 feet.

The North Cascades Highway is regarded as one of the most scenic mountain road rides in America. Ride all or just parts of this fully support tour. This trip is being hosted by John Sargent.

Call 360-990-3786 and sign up today.



Washington Alpine Club
P.O. Box 352
Seattle, WA 98111

Address Correction Requested
Do Not Forward

FIRST CLASS

TO: