

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB | BULLETIN

September 2010 | Volume 93, Issue 7



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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Summer 2010

Hope everyone had a fantastic summer. On August 14 was the annual WAC Summer Party. For a recap, see page 6. Throughout the summer, WAC members scaled many mountains, and many people wrote trip reports. For a report on Treasurer Toby Young's ascents of Buckner Peak, Horseshoe Peak and Sharkfin Tower, see page 8.

Remembering Lee Adams

Our world was saddened in July with the passing of Lee Adams. On pages 4-5 we've collected an assortment of stories, memories, and photos.

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

September	
September 1	MOFA Enrollment Begins
September 11	Guye Cabin Summer Work Party
October	
October 16	Guye Cabin Fall Work Party
October 17	Annual Members Meeting
November	
November 13-15	MOFA Class (Tentative)
December	
December 11	Annual New Snow Dinner

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

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

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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

September 2010

by Mike Mahanay



There is a tremendous sadness within the WAC Community right now. I am sure you have all heard that our friend Lee Adams was taken from us recently on Mount Rainier. His death is a tremendous loss to the WAC and to the climbing community. Lee was in the heart of the WAC— teaching with the Climbing Class, Backcountry Class, and Telemark/Randonee Ski Class. He was out climbing, skiing, or sailing most weekends. His skills and physical ability in all disciplines was superb. Lee was always energetic, and happy. He made a connection with everyone he met that lasted, and he died doing what he loved.

Lee's memorial service on Kite Hill in Magnuson Park was attended by over 120 people. Each and every one of us in attendance was moved by touching stories of Lee that were shared as we passed the "Rusty Piton" around the great circle of friends.

At that moment I also realized how extremely lucky we all are to have stumbled upon this group of friends called the WAC, and the strength & support of community it has brought to all of us. We have a very strong shared emotional connection with each other to help us through this tragic and extremely difficult time.



We miss you Lee.

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

Remembering Lee Adams

A collection of memories

- My climbs with Lee were few but memorable. It seemed a privilege then to be in his company, feeling which now is only amplified. He taught me how to properly set a nut and treated me as an equal, noob though I was. Thank you, Lee.



- A year later, even after he pulled a rock onto himself climbing, and was on crutches, he didn't lose his gumption and desire to conquer - I loved his water bottle holder that he affixed to his crutches. What a riot and what a kind man. I'll remember you Lee!

- With a twinkle in his eye, I remember Lee turning to me on the Nisqually Glacier and saying, "Do you want to play frisbee?". Sure, I said and no sooner had I answered when out of his pack came a yellow frisbee. Lee knew I was a sucker for games and that frisbee popped up almost every year on the Friday set up day for the Nisqually class. We played until one particularly cold year that

frisbee just shattered into a billion pieces. I will miss him.

- One of the weekends that I remember the most was a weekend of camping on the Nisqually Glacier. We were preparing for training the basic class students about glacier travel. As I was setting up my tent in the dark, I mistakenly put one of my tent poles on the snow and it took off quickly down the glacier. KP and I looked for it for all of 10 minutes and gave up due to darkness and the effort, so we rigged my tent up with ski poles for the night. In the morning, as I was trying to motivate to get out of the tent and into the cold, I look out of my tent and see Lee carrying my tent stake as he skinned back up to camp. He had gotten up early (no surprise there), put on his skis, skied down about 1000ft of the Nisqually, wandered aimlessly left and right on a mission for the tent stake, somehow found it and made it back to camp. All of this happened before the rest of us even made it out of our tents. His energy was endless and appreciated.

- I have learned so much from Lee and valued his opinion, his company, his friendship and his humor. He was an inspiration to be with in the outdoors as well as inspirational to watch as he enjoyed the outdoors. He will be missed by all the people he touched and influenced along his way. I miss him.

- Lee is a prince... Past, present and future... He graced my life with his presence, wit and charm. I will truly miss the guy...

- I always felt honored and lucky to climb with Lee.

- He was always creative and had the knowledge and energy to solve any problem, from torn pants in the backcountry to routefinding to digging pits.

- In a world where I feel like I can't trust very many people, I trusted Lee. He might not have always taken the optimal route, but he would always find something that worked. He could fix anything, stay calm in any situation, and was strong as an ox and quick as a rabbit.

- He always, always, always had a great sense of humor, was enthusiastic about everything he did, and curious about how everything worked. He was such a goofy bastard. I can't look at a picture of him without laughing! Lee was more of a constructor, building cairns, making solid camp sites in the snow, etc., etc. I remember him constructing the 'golden piton award' for Pat in honor of his Bulger List completion last year.



- His sense of snow was amazing.

- He was stubborn and honest and frank and a good human being. He never stopped learning or reading.

- I loved climbing with him. He was funny, but never too talkative. I can't remember us ever disagreeing about anything... although we might have debated a route or two. Perhaps the reflection of the rear-view mirror isn't quite accurate, but I can't remember ever being annoyed with him. I always went on any trip with him with all potential unpleasanties fully disclosed and he always gave me the choice of opting out of anything I might not be comfortable with.

- Jesus, he was a good skier.

- He LOVED South Spectacle Butte and the larches there. And he LOVED the ice 'skating' on the way down from Greenwood

- He survived Hard Mox, a rock that pinned his foot underwater while he was scrambling. It seemed like he could survive anything.

- I really looked up to him, perhaps more than anyone I know. It has taken me all these trips to realize that I'll never be half the climber or skier that Lee was. I learned a lot from him, just hearing about his career and other aspects of life. Maybe he was a little like a surrogate father.

- I remember last summer while he was racking up summits like crazy something he said that surprised me at the time. He said that there's a lot more to life than climbing. And that really meant something to me, coming from an amazing climber who obviously felt so passionate about it.

- I've often told people that Lee is one of my favorite people in this world. He was truly a unique individual in all the best ways. He had a sharp wit and the unique ability to bring a



room of people to stitches with his hilarious story-telling talent. He was genuinely sincere, kind, optimistic, patient, ethical, humble, and giving. He was no push-over, but he exhibited grace like few people I know in this world. I am so fortunate to have been able to share many memories, laughs and adventures with Lee.

- Lee was as rock-solid of a partner as anyone would want.

- As an instructor, he was one of our rocks. It's a force of nature to know Lee, and it's hard to imagine anything ever stopping him.

- He's my buddy, my neighbor, the kind of guy you want to be with when everything goes right and when everything goes wrong.

TO READ MORE OR ADD YOUR OWN THOUGHTS:

<http://innerbeaver.blogspot.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=147721191908838&v=wall>

WAC COMMUNITY NEWS

Summer Party Report



The WAC's annual summer party came off just as planned. It was a perfect day, one of the hottest of the summer- which made hiking and spending the day in the mountains a perfect activity. The Snoqualmie River was the perfect place to cool off and beat the heat.

Dale Ott, Lee Foot, Karisa and others came up for the morning and left after lunch. Jiri, Magdalena

and 3 little girls finished bolting planks on the bridge. John Sargent was the host for day.

There were plenty of people to have fun. Pete and MJ Steele, and Barbara Dietrich came with a birthday cake for Charlie's 100th birthday. Charlie is the oldest WAC member and tells fascinating stories of the outdoors liked they happened yesterday.

The BBQ was lots of fun. Eric Bosell and Bunk 42 Band played a wide selection of classics and modern hits. (Thanks Eric!) The evening finished with the traditional campfire and smores. Many people stayed over night. Thanks to everyone who attended or helped- you made the day a responding success!

Annual Member Meeting

Sunday, October 17, 2:00 p.m.

Work Party 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Open House 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Potluck lunch at noon! Bring your best cold weather comfort food dish.

Annual member Meeting at 2 pm. Reports and presentations. Vote in the 2011 Board.

We are expecting a large turnout this year for committee reports and special events.

Spend Saturday night. The Cabin will be open all day Saturday and Sunday.

This will be a good time to bring your friends and family up to experience the WAC and see Guye Cabin.

Work Parties

There are only 2 more Work Parties left for 2010 – September 11 and October 17

Come join us as we put firewood away and do other things to get the Cabin ready for the big El Nino winter that is coming!

Wilderness and Remote First Aid

As many of you have heard, MOFA has been replaced by Wilderness and Remote First Aid. Our awesome instructors, Scott, Laurie, John & Eileen are working to get re-certified to the new program. In the next couple of weeks we should have a plan in place for the Fall WRFA class at Guye Cabin so stay tuned for registration. The WAC recommends that everyone take this course!

The new American Red Cross Wilderness and Remote First Aid is designed for those whose jobs, volunteerism or favorite sports or hobbies take them to remote wilderness settings where Emergency Medical Services responders may be an hour or more away. Major portions of the course are designed to be taught outdoors.



Old Slanted Sashes

Dave Michell spent many days this summer recreating the slanted window in the men's dorm. We would like to keep the original one and display it somewhere in the Cabin.

The WAC has many creative people. Any ideas? Contact Dave! dtmitch@mindspring.com

Topics covered will include:

Head (Brain), Neck and Spinal Injuries;
Wounds and Wound Infection; Hypothermia;
Heat-Related Emergencies; Allergies and Anaphylaxis; Altitude-Related Illnesses; Bone and Joint Injuries; Burns

A separate Adult CPR with AED Essentials is a prerequisite for WRFA.

SUMMER TRIP REPORTS

North Face Mt. Buckner, Horseshoe Peak, and Sharkfin Tower

by Toby Young

I recently spent three days, July 19th – 21st, 2010, with Martin Volken of Pro Guiding Service. Pro Guiding is an outfit owned and operated by Martin and run out of North Bend. Martin is a transplanted Swiss mountain guide and also runs Pro Ski Service, also in North Bend, and previously owned Pro Ski Service in Seattle.

The plan was to climb a few routes and learn/practice along the way techniques professional mountain guides use for efficiently and safely moving a client or clients along a route. I am not looking to become a guide in any shape or form but I figured the things guides do to move clients along quickly would still be applicable. Some things I learned:

- 0) Martin expects to be back in camp by 4 PM so he can have an afternoon cup of coffee.
- 1) Moving fast is not as important as continuing to move.
- 2) Minimize the time to required at transitions. This includes:
 - 2a) being comfortable scrambling rock with crampons. Or....
 - 2b) cut steps on hard snow instead of putting on the crampons
 - 2c) Instead of a short rap, lower one person and then do a counter-weight rap.



- 3) Learn to use terrain features (flakes/horns) for protection in scramble terrain
- 4) Learn to use terrain features (flakes/horns) for belaying the second on easier 5th class terrain. This removes the need to build a gear-based anchor. It saves huge amounts of time.

During some of the non-climbing time I discussed with Martin how guides are taught to rope teams together for glacier travel. I explained what the WAC does in its Basic Climb-

ing Course. Martin had good feedback for me. For example, the WAC teaches students to tie their Texas-prussik onto the rope and this prepares them for ascending the rope in event they drop into a hole. Guides have clients tie a Bachman onto their rope and forgo the prussiks. This prepares the climber, in the event they arrest a fall, to transfer the load to an anchor which is a more pressing task in Martin's mind. While that anchor is being built, the person in the hole can begin to put the foot prussik onto the rope and simply use the Bachman for the "seat" prussik.

TRIP REPORTS

Be sure and post your trip reports the WAC website and include links to pictures! The WAC DB has an extensive DB of trips.
<http://www.wacweb.org/Trips/TripReports/default.view>

Buckner and Horseshoe Peak

We camped at the high camp below the Sahalie Glacier. The trail to here is fully snow free. The north face route of Buckner is in prime shape at the moment. We brought ice screws and pickets but used none of it. The second tool is useful for balance and for crossing a couple runnels. The snow allows for good steps to be kicked, which for us was done by a group of two that left camp an hour ahead of us. Sometimes the early bird does all the work! Overall, the terrain is steep – consistently 40 degrees and perhaps 45 to 50 for a short distance – but the steps are so secure you are not working that hard. The route itself is some 1,500 feet and took us about an 1 hr. and 20 minutes to ascend.

There is an easily followed foot path across the Boston Glacier to the base of the route. From the summit down to the Davenport Basin there is also an easily followed footpath. The Davenport basin is still full of snow and easily traversed. The final slope you need to ascend to reach the Sahalie camp is a mixture of easily scrambled rock and snow but is melting quickly.

Within 5–minutes of returning to camp, it began to drizzle. Shortly after it was dumping rain with thunder and lightning as well just to liven things up.

Just below the south descent route of Buckner lies Horseshoe Peak, one of the “Washington 100 Highest.” As I had not climbed it and we had adequate time, we did that route as well. You are walking very near it so why not climb it? Now is a great time to climb that route as the approach across the Davenport is all snow (it turns to some of the worst scree later in the summer).



Sharkfin Tower

Due to the forecast for continued afternoon rain, the plan changed. Instead of waking up at the pre-crack of dawn, moving into Boston Basin and climbing either the west or east ridge of Forbidden, we opted for Sharkfin Tower. This meant a more leisurely 7:30 AM departure. The descent into Boston Basin is quite straight forward from the Sahalie Arm. We stashed the unnecessary gear under a lot of rocks then headed up to Sharkfin Tower. Travel time to the gully below Sharkfin took 45 or 50 minutes. There is at the moment a tricky moat one must work through to gain the snow in the gully. I won't bother explaining what we did since things will change within a week without a doubt – it is warm up there now. The rock on Sharkfin Tower is amazing – very solid and clean and would take gear well, if you needed much

gear. “Selected Climbs in the Cascades” rates it as 5.0 and that is accurate. From the start of the route at the top of a notch, there is a very exposed 4th class scramble one must do to gain that 5.0 pitch. However, there are a number of flakes/horns one can drape the rope over to protect yourself and the second. This is what Martin did and it allows for continued movement while mitigating the risk.

This approach was used for the rest of the route. In fact, I don't believe a single piece of gear was placed, though there are cracks one could use. The descent is a mixture of down-climbing and raps. From the summit you have to down-climb though it is straight-forward. Then you reach rap slings and it is clear enough what to do.

WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

WAC Logo: Feedback Sought

Toby Young is soliciting feedback on a proposed change to the WAC logo. To the right are the current logo and the proposed re-design.

To submit your thoughts on the proposed re-design, email you comments to Toby at:

dr.tobster@gmail.com



BEFORE



AFTER



Washington Alpine Club
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Address Correction Requested
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FIRST CLASS

TO: