

NOSTALGIA

April 1959 – Your next to last chance of this season will be April 24th. Occasion, the Alpine Club dance at the I.O.G.T. Hall, at Boren and Virginia. 9 PM.

It has been a real pleasure to see more and more of the WAC members showing their happy faces and dancing feet at these affairs. There is enough interest that some of the group are having a get together a week or so before the dance to brush up on their dancing technique. If you are interested, contact Mary Boyko or Owen and Marian Alloway.

March 1967 – Alpentel Tour. Jan. 21st was a perfect day to tour into an area that is expected to change a great deal this year. There have been minor changes made already, some clearing, a few bridges and A-frame cabins. It won't be long until the gasoline driven wheels will replace snowshoes and skis as means of travel into this valley.

Washington Alpine Club

BULLETIN *ON LINE*

March 2007, Vol. 90 No. 3



MARIAN ALLOWAY

Marian died February 4th. She and Owen joined the WAC in 1958 and were active in skiing, hiking, climbing, dancing and many Guye cabin activities. She served on the board more than once. She handled WAC membership for eighteen years.

Way back, before pagers and other technology, it was Marian who was the contact for Mountain Rescue, at the top of the phone tree

She would be called regarding an incident, usually in the middle of the night, she then warmed the phone lines to call out the rescue teams. She was jokingly referred to as "the call girl".

Old timers can recall dances at the cabin after a day of skiing, great dinners, summer outings; she was active in all of these. During dinners at the cabin or lunches on Saturday ski lesson days, she was usually busy in the kitchen. Robin, Guy and Keith are the Alloway's surviving children, all still in the Seattle area.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Mar. 8 Board Meeting
- Mar. 10 Inaugural Cascades Free Heel Festival at Hyak!
- Mar. 11 Nordic Class 3 at 10 am
- Mar. 10/11 Cascade Club Bike Expo
- Mar. 13 Snoqualmie Conservation Coalition 5
- April 07/08 Iron Horse Trail Bike Ride, Cle Elum/Vantage
- April 12 Board Meeting
- April 21 Olympic Beach Cleanup & Earth Day
- May 05/06 San Juan Islands Bike Ride- Orcas Island

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Although winter is still going strong, the days are getting longer and the ski lessons are wrapping up. Word from those who know predict Spring to begin early, on March 10. (The day of the First Annual Cascades Freeheel Festival!) The official day for the vernal equinox and the beginning of spring is March 21. This has been a superb ski season with lots of powder. The skiable snow should last well into May. Our weather will soon turn gorgeous, and the yellow daffodils will make everyone feel very happy! When do you think the last snow will melt from around Guye Cabin?

Pete Alderson and Jason Christensen had the Backcountry Class at Guye Cabin last weekend. They had great winter weather, and lots of snow! They welcomed back Cynthia Hickey teaching the avalanche portion of the class. The 2006 Climbing Class will also be underway very soon! It is led this year by Doug, Fred, and Mica. They will have the instructors clinics at Guye Cabin on March 04, and March 18. Thanks to the co-chairs and all the volunteers who work so hard to organize and teach these and other WAC classes!

John Sargent will again lead a bike outing suitable for all ages. April 7th and 8th will be the 4th annual WAC Spring Break bicycle tour. This tour will travel the Iron Horse Trail from Cle Elum to the Columbia River. See the info elsewhere in this bulletin or on the website. Sign up with John now! Don't forget in May John will lead another of the San Juan Islands bike ride series. Oh yes, John will also lead an Orcas Island ride on May 6/7. Sign up with John.

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

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MOVING ??

Send change of address forms to:
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email: Lynn Miller lynne@ohana.org
 Dave Mitchell dtmitch@mindspring.com

April 21 is the 6th annual Olympic Beach Cleanup, our yearly service trip. There have been some really intense storms this winter. Do you remember December 15th? These storms, unfortunately, bring a new delivery of flotsam and jetsam to our beaches. Coordinated by our friend Jan Klippert, the coastal clean now goes all the way from the Long Beach Peninsula to Cape Flattery. The WAC portion is Hoh Beach. Come join the fun! We have participated the last five years and each year it has been even more fun than the year before! It makes everyone feel good to know they help cleanup the only wilderness coastline in the lower 48. Come on out on April 21, to where the cold glacier water from Mount Olympus meets the Pacific Ocean! Sign up with Mike.

March and April are great times to visit the Guye Cabin. As the flowers begin to bloom in Seattle, and the days become longer there will be less people, more parking spaces, and still all the snow you need! The Cabin is a great place to meet new friends and renew old friendships!

Sometimes we forget just what the Washington Alpine Club is. A long-standing tradition, the WAC started in 1916 and is going stronger than ever with 500 members who actually know each other. Do you know someone who would be a good fit for the WAC? Please take some time and introduce them to some of the many benefits our unique Club has to offer, and get them online to sign up! They will thank you for it! Mike

SNOQUALMIE PASS WINTER TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Several of us from the WAC, Kongsbergers, and Mountaineers are working on a non-motorized master plan to present to the Forest Service and State Parks. This will include Sno Parks, groomed trails, snowshoe trails and backcountry. Do you have any ideas or comments regarding winter trails in the

I-90 corridor? Would you be interested in reviewing our draft master plan? Please let me know soon! Mike

GUIDED SNOWSHOE WALKS

With the Forest Service up the PCT 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays, thru March 25, guided Forest Service interpretive snowshoe walks on Snoqualmie Pass; limited to 20 people, no children under 10; \$10 donation, 425-434-6111

The Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Information Center is open for winter recreation information, sno-park permit sales, and snowshoe walk reservations. Hours of operation will be Friday thru Sunday from 9:00 AM. - 3:00 PM

X-C LESSONS AT HYAK

Even though it is March there is still well over 100 inches of snow in the mountains. Want to get started with X-C? This is a best bet for new x-c skiers. The Summit East (Exit 54) Nordic Center offers drop-in lessons on Saturdays and Sundays. Lesson times are scheduled for 10:30am and 1:00pm. For ages 10 and over, lesson, trail pass, and equipment rental is \$47. Participants must be signed-up at least one hour prior to lesson start. Sign-up is subject to availability.

IRON HORSE TRAIL BIKE RIDE APRIL 7/8

Have you ever wondered where the old Milwaukee Road went after it comes out of the Snoqualmie Tunnel? All the way across our state and all the way to Milwaukee! We can see for ourselves!

The 4th annual Spring Break bike ride on the Iron Horse is coming soon. Officially it's called the John Wayne Pioneer Trail located in Iron Horse State Park. Both names are used to describe the trail. Currently there's over 100 miles of trail and the long-term plan is to extend it all the way to Montana. Idaho has already

paved 73 miles of the path along the Cour d'Alene River. The Washington Alpine Club biked part of this trail in 2006.

Saturday, April 7th 10 am, meet at the South Cle Elum Trailhead. Bring a lunch with you to eat on the trail. We will bike from South Cle Elum to Thorp for 18.6 miles. And then stop for lunch before entering the Thorp tunnel. After lunch we will bike another 6.8 miles to Ellensburg.

In Ellensburg we will camp at the Kittitas county Fairgrounds, next to the John Wayne Pioneer Trail. Dinner will be at a local restaurant. Bring a swimsuit if you want to use the Ellensburg Community Fitness Center Pool. Saturday night we may shuttle some cars from South Cle Elum to the Shell station at exit 115.

On Sunday, April 8th Breakfast will be at the Copper Kettle Restaurant and then we will drive to Kittitas to start biking. From Kittitas it's 10 miles to the Boylston Tunnel where we will have lunch. You will need a bright light to see while biking in the tunnel. After lunch it's 16.6 miles down hill to the Columbia River. 10 miles. After the ride we will shuttle back to exit 115. For more information call John Sargent, 306-377-3217 or email at johntami@comcast.net

CROSS ISLAND BIKE RIDE MAY 5/6 RCA

This ride has been voted one of the top 100 climbs in the United States by Bicycle magazine. Mt. Constitution on Orcas Island offers 3600 feet of elevation in 6 miles for an average grade of 11%; expect to spend at least 60 otherworldly minutes conquering this arid yet heavily forested climb to an Army lookout station. But first, on Saturday we will cycle 14 miles from

the ferry terminal to Moran State Park. Anyone want to swim? We will be camping on the shores of Cascade Lake. Then on Sunday we will bike another 6 miles from Cascade Lake to Mountain Lake and then to the summit of Mt. Constitution for the most spectacular view in the San Juan Islands. The Ferry leaves Anacortes at 10:40 Saturday morning. Don't get left behind.

For more information call John Sargent at 360-377-3217 or email johtami@comcast.net

OLYMPIC COAST BEACH CLEANUP

Oil City/Jefferson Cove April 21/22, 2007 - The sixth year of this annual event. "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

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 it's 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 of Olympic National Park on Earth Day! We will camp at the Hoh Beach on Saturday evening, about two miles from the trail-head.

Contact Mike Mahanay at mikem@grandcanyontreks.org to register.

JOIN THE WACLIST ON YAHOO!

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

Post message:
waclist@yahogroups.com

Subscribe:
waclist-subscribe@yahogroups.com

Important: We only let people sign up who are current WAC members. When you click the Join This Group button, we have to approve you before you can join. All we see is your email address unless you tell us more. Please put your name in the comment section. As much as we love you all, we haven't memorized your email addresses, and if we can't figure out who you are from your email address alone, then we'll deny your request.

If this happens to you just apply to join the group again and in the comment section, tell us your name.

You must be a current Member!
Does the WAC have your email address?

You can check these things here:
http://www.wacweb.org/Membership/MemberList/photoroster.view?Last_Name~startswith=A>

If you don't have an account on the <http://www.wacweb.org> you can use the shared name and password:

User name: climbing

Password: climbon

This list is open to all members of the Washington Alpine Club.

Please see www.washingtonalpineclub.org

Thanks a bunch, -George Snelling,
Mike Garrison, Sim Larkin

FIRST AID

If you missed the fall WAC MOFA class because we did not have enough instructors and would still like to take the class, the Mountaineers are running several classes this spring. Check their

website for dates and locations. <http://www.mountaineers.org/> Hopefully we will have enough instructors to run a WAC MOFA class next fall. Hint hint.

If you have already taken a MOFA class, there isn't better way to keep your skills sharp than to being an instructor (unless you happen to have a victim bleeding around the house for you to practice on). If you are interested in keeping your skills current, become an instructor for the WAC. This isn't giving back to the club, it is a little insurance policy. The next person along the trail after you grabbed that portable handhold 30 ft up the cliff may or may not know what to do..... you decide.

Join a Spring instructor course to be held on weekends. Dates and times: Sat., May 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Sat. May 12th, Sun. May 13th, Sat. May 19th, Sat. and May 26th, from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The course includes Fundamentals of Instructor Training (5/5); American Red Cross CPR/AED skills certification and testing (5/12), ARC First Aid and MOFA skills testing (5/13) and the ARC/MOFA Instructor Course (5/19, 5/26). Location: Bio-Rad Woodinville, 14620 NE North Woodinville Way, Woodinville.

The course tuition of \$75.00 will be reimbursed after you teach your first course for Seattle Branch, Mountaineers. (If you are already an American Red Cross instructor you may be excused from the May 5th session.) Sign up through The Mountaineers Web Site <http://www.mountaineers.org> For questions, contact Karl Brackmann Email k.brackmann@verizon.net or call 425-788-8947.

NOTE: Enrollment minimums will be required for the courses to be held. Lodging and lift tickets extra.

SKIING

THE HOG LOPPET - A 21 Mile Ski Trip from Mission Ridge to Blewett Pass in the Cascades!
February 24, 2007

Okay! One more time. What is the Hog Loppet? It is Swedish for "citizen's

high country ski trek".

It is a high traverse from the top of Mission Ridge Ski Area to Blewett Pass, covering 30 kilometers. This was the 18th annual cross-country ski event, and this year there were over 500 skiers participating in spite of the winter conditions. This 21-mile event is not a race but a Hog Loppet, where the only idea is have fun and finish.

The route is up and down for the first 7 miles, then generally level for the next 7 miles, and then the last 7 miles there is a long descent to 4100 foot Blewett Pass. Along the way, there were three aid stations with snacks, oranges, apples, water, Gatorade, hot chocolate, mm's, and emergency equipment.

The route begins at the top of the Mission Ridge Ski Area, outside Wenatchee, after two chairlift rides from the base. It was quite a site to see all the skinny skis hanging from the chairs. Many Nordic skiers have a hard time getting off the lifts so the ski patrol was there to assist those that fell.

This year the normally spectacular views were blocked by clouds and snowfall. The winter conditions blocked the views or Mount Rainier, the Columbia River, and Mount Stuart. The top of Mission Ridge was very cold and windy, so we immediately moved on to the trail. We took off on a long downhill, following the ridge, eager to get into the trees. There were volunteers positioned strategically to help us turn the right way and stay on course. Once we left the ski area, the route was mostly groomed complete with a track for most of the way.

There were a few sections in the beginning that could be called back-country with expert descents. It was fun to watch the various styles of Nordic skiers navigate the new fluffy powder better suited to telemark skis. We had many up and downs and crossed several tempting bowls. There were many crashes! Traffic was heavy since the skiers were not spread out yet. We did see a few telemarkers, and a couple of Randonee skiers. They definitely had the

advantage in this ungroomed section. But I felt for them in the flats. After a long uphill we arrived at the first rest stop.

Doerte and I enjoyed oranges, apples, cookies and m & m's and Gatorade. There was every type of ski imaginable with the exception of Alpine! Skate, Classic, Backcountry, plastic boots, leather boots, no edges, edged, telemark, and randonee. The equipment emphasis was on three pin, leather boots, and metal edges. One veteran told Doerte that the Hog Loppet was known for the wide variety of older equipment.

The snow continued to fall throughout the morning, and finally began to taper off a bit in the afternoon.

The groomed trail was a real pleasure! The downhill was exhilarating, and during the uphills we just did the best we could. As the route flattened out we were able to do more skating. There were many tempting glades of powder pillows to ski, but we stayed on course. Woohoo, we arrived at Haney Meadows and the second rest stop!

Haney Meadows is a beautiful place with many meadows and glades that would make great ski runs if the snow machines were not there. Since it is east of the Cascade Crest, the snow is very light. Haney Meadows is also the location of a historic old Cabin. The Forest Service was nice enough to keep the snowmobilers away from Haney Meadows during the Hog Loppet. We saw our local Wenatchee National Forest Ranger Todd Stiles, and had a nice visit with him. The WAC and other Snoqualmie Pass Clubs are working with the Wenatchee National Forest on several projects.

After a short rest, we started to ski to the finish! After three miles of level trail we began a long 2 mile fast descent that took us quickly near our destination, Blewett Pass. We completed the trip in a leisurely six hours.

The organizers had big busses to give us a ride back to our vehicles in Wenatchee and Leavenworth. Everyone

received a really cool t-shirt as a prize. Doerte and I met one of the organizers, Eric Redrup from Leavenworth.

This is an intermediate ski with a few miles of ungroomed skiing at the beginning. Ages ranged from teenagers to seniors.

Want to go next year? <http://www.skileavenworth.com/events/eventdetail.asp?eventid=21>

This is one of the best ski events in the Pacific Northwest. Plan on signing up and committing to the race at least two weeks prior to the event to ensure a spot on the buses as they sell out.

Photos at <http://www.grandcanyon-treks.org/backcountry/hogloppet2007.html> Mike

CASCADES FREEHEEL FESTIVAL 2007

Come join the fun! Costume Race, Skin up and Ski down Race! We will also have a Live Band! "Bunk 42" with the WAC's own Eric Bosell and friends.

Cascades Freeheel Festival 2007 is a Pacific Northwest Grass Roots Event with no corporate sponsors, relying solely on volunteer efforts gathering to celebrate the Spring snow, telemarking, randonee, x-country, and backcountry skiing.

The Cascades Freeheel Festival event has been created by skiers for skiers to promote the fellowship, climate, magic, fun, skill, and knowledge of freeheel and backcountry skiing. General socializing all day at the Old Milwaukee Lodge, at the base of the Mountain.

Schedule of events:

9:00 AM - 10:30 Morning Clinics
11:00 AM Skin and Ski Race (Skin up and ski back down) by Outdoor Research
11:00 AM - 2:30 PM Snoqualmie Nordic Bake Sale at the Yurt
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM BBQ Cookout Lunch
1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Afternoon Clinics
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM Costume Mass Ski
3:00 - 5:00 PM Live Band! Bunk 42!!
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Food Beer and Party at Old Milwaukee Lodge!!

SOUVENIR T-SHIRTS

A very limited number of super cool special edition long sleeve quick dry t shirts will be available for sale! Please let Mike know if you want one. \$25 each.

CLINICS

Morning and afternoon clinics are \$20 (Please sign up in the Old Milwaukee Lodge at least 15 minutes prior to the clinic start time)

If you were a part of the Wednesday night WAC/Mountaineers telemark/randonee class, you are invited to a special lesson to make up for the ice day when none of us could make it up to the Pass. Stay tuned for specific time and directions. (9-11?)

COSTUME MASS SKI

The Costume Mass Ski will take place after lunch at 1:30. We'll meet at the top of the Keechelus Chairlift and ski down the face. What to wear? Although the Island theme is always popular for both the guys and gals, many of the boys prefer white wedding gowns.

The First Annual Cascades Freeheel Festival is presented by:

The [Washington Alpine Club Summit East \(Hyak\) Outdoor Research](#) and Bunk 42 Band

SEASON PASSES

For folks that do not have the season passes, there is a special offer at the local Safeway stores:

http://www.summitatsnoqualmie.com/info/winter/safeway_offer.asp?WT_mc_id=safeway_hmpage_promo_20070226

Two lift tickets for \$79. This is a pretty good deal. More good news is that after the Freeheel festival fun at Hyak, Central and Alpental are open until 10 PM if you have any energy left.

Here is the Freeheel Festival web page:

<http://www.grandcanyontreks.org/wac/2005/cascadefreeheelfestival.html>

Both the skin up and ski down race, and the costume mass ski events are free!

Don't forget, Bunk 42 will play from 3-5 pm.

MT BAKER TELEMAR & RANDONEE SKI CAMP

Mt Baker Telemark ski camp is in its 12th year and scheduled again for March 3rd and 4th 2007. A first for this year: we are adding a randonnee skiing section. This two-day overnight camp with lodging at the Mt Baker Mountaineers lodge offers two full days of lift served lessons with PSIA instructors at the Mt. Baker ski area. Saturday evening will feature a video analysis and review. We have lodging room for only 20 students, so please sign up early. Off-mountain lodging options are available. Advanced beginners through advanced Telemark/Randonnee skiers welcome. Maximum enrollment is 8 students per section, 3 sections for each discipline.

Members of WAC and WSTC may enroll at the Mountaineers enrollment fee of \$135.00.

Lodging and lift tickets extra.

If interested, reply email me or call me at 206-391-4352 (cell). - Charlie Cornish

More info at:

<http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/tele.html>

CLIMBING

Just a quick reminder that some of the Basic Climbing Class instructors (about 25 of us) will be using the cabin for training on Sunday March 4th (this Sunday!)

We'll be in the lounge most of the day with a quick break for lunch. We'll be mindful about shuttling from Summit West, but parking will be tight that day.

Thanks, Mica Schonbeck Co-Chair