



Guye Cabin Summer See Page 7



San Juan Island Bike Ride-

Waiting to Board the ferry on San Juan Island. We had the best weather of the spring, relaxed cycling, good friends, orcas, and amazing beaches!

WAC technical T's

Get Yours now!

Due to popular demand for the classic WAC t-shirts we placed a new order and now have them in stock! You can pick them up at a work party, climbing class, or downtown at lunch.

S,M,L, XL,XXL

Just \$20



June, 2008 Volume 91, Issue 6

Washington Alpine Club Po Box 352 Seattle, WA 98111

Get involved!

Board Meeting June 12

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WASHINGTON ALPINE CLUB

Organized 1916 Incorporated 1923

MEMBER OF: Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs,
Washington Trails Assn. Washington Environmental
Council. Washington Wilderness Coalition.

MidFORC 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.

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www.washingtonalpineclub.org

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MOVING ??-

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

Or Dave Mitchell dtmitch@mindspring.com

Looking Ahead! WAC Calendar

June 7 > National Trails Day

June 12 > Board Meeting

June 14 > Guye Cabin Work Party

June 26/29 > Mount Hood Summer Telemark Ski Camp

July 12/13 > STP Bike Ride

July 12 > Guye Cabin Work Party

July 19 > WTA TrailsFest

August 09 > Guye Cabin Work Party

August 16 > WAC Summer Party

Sept 06/07 > ICO Train the Trainer

Sept 27/28 > Member Cabin event

October 19 > Annual Meeting



This is what happens when you forget to clear the snow off your car 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@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: waclist-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Important: You must be a current Member! 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.

Does the WAC have your good email address? You can check these things on the WAC website. Please go to <u>www.washingtonalpineclub.org</u> If your address chances please let us know!

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

User name: climbing Password: climbon

Thanks -George Snelling, Mike Garrison, Sim Larkin

President's Corner June 2008

Summer is here! Wait a minute— no, it's not. We are barely able to get to 60 degrees in Western WA and there is still a ton on snow at the Cabin. If you haven't been up recently, go up and take a look at all the snow still on the ground in June.

We are still waiting for consistent warm weather to melt the snow and allow the blueberries and rhubarb to start to grow. All the trails are still snow covered. The good side is that there is lots of running water, flowing rivers and creeks, and waterfalls.

May was an active month for our Club. The climbing class did their ascents of some of the Snoqualmie Peaks. A couple of weekends ago they were on the Nisqually Glacier, and coming up very soon they will be on Mount Baker. The Club participated in the annual cleanup of the Olympic Beaches, and John Sargent led an excellent bike ride on San Juan Island! Many WAC members participated in Bike to Work Day & Month and are again planning the Seattle to Portland Bike Ride.

We'll all go off in different directions all over the world this summer and do all sort of different outdoor activities, but there are important dates that you will not want to miss. We'll have several work parties over the summer (check page 2) We need your help! We have a lot of small tasks, and lots of yard work to do so come on up for the day.

On August 16 we'll have our summer shindig at Guye Cabin, the WAC Summer Party. Come up and hike, bike, or climb for the day, and stop in to see friends and have a potluck lunch and dinner. This is an excellent chance to get some quality social time in with the amazing folks that make up our unique magical Club and make some new friends. Come on up!

Have you seen Guye Cabin lately? Come up and take a look. Summer is and outdoor recreation groups. It's all at a perfect time to visit our Cabin to relax and enjoy the mountain summer! If you are lucky you might even have it to yourself. Bring your friends and family up to see it. If you like to paint, chop wood, or do mountain chores come on up for the summer's almost "Second Saturday" work parties on June 14, July 19, August 09.

Turn right on 436th Ave SE and follow the summer is and outdoor recreation groups. It's all at TrailsFest! Come up to the Cabin afterward.

To get there, take I-90 to exit 32.

Everyone is looking forward to a wonderful summer with lasting memories to reflect back on in the future. Let's have a fantastic safe and memorable summer!



Trails Fest July 19

Saturday July 19, 9am-4pm, Rattlesnake Lake in North Bend.

Presented by our friends at the WTA, this outdoor extravaganza features clinics on everything from wilderness first aid to hiking with kids to backcountry cooking. Take a guided hike, tie a fly on, or climb a rock wall. There will be dozens of exhibitors, including gear companies and outdoor recreation groups. It's all at TrailsFest! Come up to the Cabin afterward.

To get there, take I-90 to exit 32. Turn right on 436th Ave SE and follow the road up 2.7 miles to Rattlesnake Lake.

More information at

http://wta.org/trail-news/events/trailsfest-2008

The Bulletin is 100% online. Our new format allows us to offer photos, color, more timely content, and save 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. Do you have a story or photo you would like to share? Please send it in to us.

Climbing Hiking Biking Skiing Partners

Many folks are looking for skiing, hiking, biking, and climbing partners. The Yahoo Waclist is a very effective way of looking for someone on short notice. Participating in Club events is also an excellent way of making new friends and finding long term partners.

Can you help the WAC?

The WAC is in need of people help can help with: Outreach (attending events to educate folks and promote the club), marketing, and legal consultation.

If you have the time, energy, and drive to assist with any of these things please contact your President—Mike Mahanay at mikem@grandcanyontreks.org

The Last Polar Bear at the Burke Museum

On June 28, the Burke Museum opens *The Last Polar Bear: Facing the Truth of a Warming World*, a powerful photography exhibit documenting the polar bear in its disappearing Arctic habitat. See more than 40 heartwarming photographs by environmental photographer Steven Kazlowski, who spent nearly a decade in this remote and delicate region. The exhibit will also include Northwest filmmaker Arthur C. Smith 's *Ice Bears of the Beaufort*, a short documentary that provides a portrait of polar bear behavior. *The Last Polar Bear* runs through December 31, 2008.

http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/exhibits/details.php?ID=67&type=upcoming

Exhibit created in partnership with Braided River Books, the conservation imprint of the Mountaineers Books.

For more information, visit www.burkemuseum.org.

WAC members and their guests have a special 2 for 1 admission with this coupon.



Looking at Flowers from a Different Angle: Bees, Flies, and Ecologists By Ellen Gryj

During the summer of 1995 Ellen stayed at Guye Cabin while she did research toward her Doctorate in Zoology.

I have spent the last three summers in the Snoqualmie Pass area studying the flowers of Cascade Penstemon (Penstemon serrulatus) and the insects that use these flowers. I am interested in understanding the "reproductive decisions" plants make (e.g., how many flowers to make? When to flower?). These "decisions" are tightly related to the role of beneficial and harmful insects that visit the plant.

In addition to their obvious aesthetic value, flowers are one of the most interesting structures of plants and have been intensively studied by biologists. Flowers are reproductive organs that are usually composed of unique structures surrounding the male and the female gamete-holding structures. These surrounding structures are the petals and sepals of a flower and they vary in color, size and shape. Their function is not only to protect the gametes but in many cases they act as "flags" to signal to insects where resources (such as pollen or nectar) are found.

When we think about reproductive strategies in animals, we think about what individuals do to attract and be chosen by individuals of the opposite sex. In contrast, plants have to attract a third party: the pollinator that moves its pollen around to another flower of the same species, enabling them to produce seeds. In order to reproduce, plants have to attract "reproductive mediators" that are a different kind of living organism. Insects in general and bees in particular, are one of the most common pollinators. The plant provides a reward to the pollinator in the form of pollen, nectar (water and sugar) or more rarely other substances such as wax. In the process the animal is dusted with pollen and transports it to another flower of the same species, where it will find more of the same resource. In this both animal and plant benefit. These reciprocally beneficial interactions are called mutualisms.

The story of how pollen is transported from one plant to another is interesting in itself, but there are additional twists to this process. Several features, such as the size of the plant, the number and size of flowers, or the times at which these flowers bloom can determine how attractive a plant is to pollinators. This in turn can translate into great differences in the number of seeds produced by a certain plant. Furthermore there is one more element we must consider in understanding plant reproductive strategies: the florivores. These are flower-eating creatures that can cause serious decreases in the seed production of a plant.

Around Snoqualmie Pass, Penstemon serrulatus is pollinated by several different bumblebees, honeybees and some smaller bees. But before flowers even open and become available to pollinators, many of them are attacked by fly larvae. There is one species of gnat fly that lays its eggs on the flower buds of Penstemon serrulatus. Larvae of these flies develop inside the growing flower buds and eat all the pollen and ovules of the flower. The petals of the flower are undamaged and provide a hiding place for the destructive insect. By the time these flowers would be ready to open they either fall from the plant or open without having any reproductive structures and thus are unable to produce seeds. The timing of larval development of the florivore seems to be tuned to the timing of flower development. The insects have completed their larval development by the time the flower falls. The pupae (stage between larva and adult insect) are buried under the ground where they overwinter and then emerge soon after the snow melts during the next spring. The adults find the new generation of produced buds and the cycle begins again.

The gnat flies affect the plants in two ways. First, they decrease the number of reproductive units the plant has by eating them away. Additionally, since fewer flowers are left, the plant becomes less attractive to pollinators and that reduces the chances that a given bee will choose to visit that plant. Because of this double effect, one would expect natural selection to favor plants that can successfully escape from gnat flies and still be attractive to pollinators.

This last summer I found that those flower buds that start developing earlier in the spring have a higher incidence of attack by gnat flies. Also, flowers that open during the flowering peak of the plant population have a higher chance of being visited by pollinators. Thus, evolution appears to be pushing these plants to flower later and later. However, if all the flowers opened late and all at the same time, chances are that gnat flies would be selected to emerge later to match the timing of the flowers. Plants could then be "pushed " to flower even later, starting what is known as an arms-race: a situation where two parties are always trying to catch up and outsmart each other.

There are however, certain mechanisms that prevent this from happening. On the one hand pollinators are only around during part of the year. If plants were to wait too long to open their flowers, they would miss the pollinators altogether and the efforts to escape from florivores would be useless. There are also constr5aints imposed by the weather. For example, plants have to be able to complete seed development before temperatures drop and days become too short. This situation illustrates how a whole suite of variables is affecting the system, often in opposing directions. The reproductive strategy we observe today is probably the result of thousands of years of changes to try to reach the best compromise between all of these opposing forces.

Flowers are much more than pretty objects. They are the stage for many complex interactions with animals and plants' environment.

WAC Trip Reports!

Mount Adams by Mike Beck http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WkeCPjU1Ec

May 31 Work Party by Eli Holmes

http://picasaweb.google.com/e2holmes/WACWorkpartyMay312008

Trekking and Climbing in the Dhaulagiri and Annapurna region of Nepal by Chris Bridgeman http://www.flickr.com/photos/pinnacle2/sets/7215760424066209/

Strom the Tooth by Shaykat Chaudhuri

http://www.wacweb.org/Trips/TripReports/default.view? mode=details&Rowld=437

Lundin by Brandee Parge

http://www.wacweb.org/Trips/TripReports/default.view? mode=details&Rowld=438

Snow 1 by Cara Herter

http://www.wacweb.org/Trips/TripReports/default.view? mode=details&Rowld=439

Summer Telemark Ski Camp at Mount Hood June 26/29!

Many WAC folks have attended this summer telecamp in the past. It is a lot of fun to ski in the summer, and the instruction is excellent.

25rd Annual Summer Tele-Ski Camp Mt. Hood / Timberline Lodge Oregon **June 26/29 2008** High glacier skiing, spectacular scenery and professional instruction at the Summer Tele-Ski Camp.

If you are an advanced skier or just learning the sport, we can help you improve your telemark skills. The experienced teaching staff will help give you the skills needed to ski new terrain and try new slopes!

Three full days of summer skiing high on the snowfields of Mt. Hood - two days of special instruction, plus optional backcountry days offer a unique opportunity for you to practice, enhance and enjoy your Telemark abilities.

Lodging and homestyle meals will be available at the Mazama Lodge on Mt. Hood just above Government Camp.

The teaching staff includes internationally known mountaineers & professional ski instructors from throughout the Northwest. Beginning through advanced instruction, small classes and video analysis.

Instructors:

Nils Larson - Nelson, BC/Curlew, WA Don Portman - Methow Valley, WA Steve Hindman - Bellingham, WA Stuart Craig - Seattle, WA Shelley Hakanson - Mt. Hood, OR

More details go to

http://www.wyeastnordic.com/summertelemark.htm

Guye Cabin Work Party June 14

Summer is here! Save time and gas and come up to the Cabin! Bring your family, friends or group up to show off Guye Cabin. You'll need to be able to open/close or schedule in advance since the Cabin is not automatically be open every weekend in the summer. Are you ready for a work party? Come up to play, stay, or work.

We will have a work party this Sat June 14!

We hope enough snow is gone to work outside. Please RSVP

After lunch we will sign people off to open and close

WAC Summer Party August 16

Guye Cabin tasks for 2008-

Inside

Panel upper landing by women's dorm

New entry way doors

Paint projects - bathrooms, basement

New carpet in hall from landing to women's dorm (in progress)

Bathrooms

Improve lighting

Redo shower room

Drying room

Sand and finish basement benches

Fireplace Room

Sand and Refinish Fireplace room floor

Ping pong room

Outside the Cabin

Repair siding in various areas (left over from new roof)

Touch up paint - red and green

Outside in the Yard

Cleanup of branches and rounds

Firewood detail (split and stack)

Move dirt and rock from the East side of Cabin

Benches for outside

Bridge Work

Needed Donations (must be nice)

New Ping Pong Table

Wooden table and chairs

Short book case (any furniture carpenters out there?)

Guye Cabin photo by Dave Mitchell

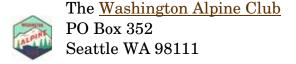
May 31—There is still several feet of snow at Snoqualmie Pass.



WAC Nostalgia from Ira Rushwald

Seattle Mountain Rescue ("SMR") was officially organized in the spring of 1948 under sponsorship of the Washington Alpine Club, the Mountaineers, and the Northwest Region of the National Ski Patrol. An extensive training program was immediately begun.

The first full-scale mission for the new organization came in September, when Robert Thorson, a Bremerton Eagle Scout, the student body president at Bremerton High School, and the son of a prominent physician, was reported injured on the Brothers. SMR reached the accident site below the summit shortly after sunrise to find that Bob had died as a result of the fall. He is commemorated today by "Thorson Peak" located in the Pershing Massif across the valley from the Brothers.



First Class

<u>Address Correction Requested</u> Do not forward

To: