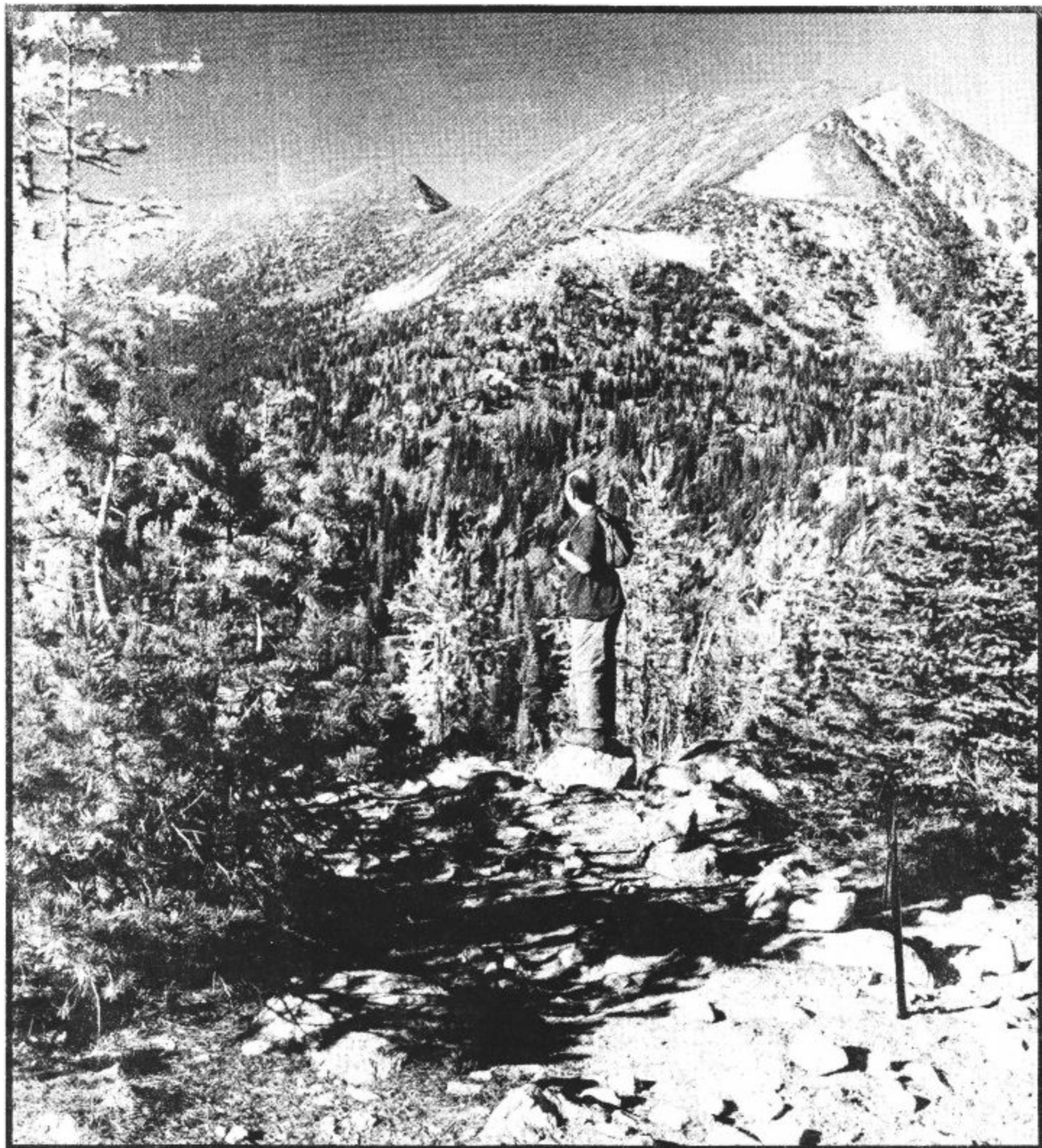


PACK & PADDLE[®]

... covering the backcountry in
Washington and the Pacific Northwest

SEPTEMBER 1996
\$2.00



INTERNAL FRAME SPECIALISTS

The Northwest's premier pack builder for serious backpackers and mountaineers.

- Women & tall men our specialty.
- 7075-T6 frames keep their shape.
- Patented Bypass shoulder harness.
- Original Bayonet breakdown frame.
- Travel covers for all packs
- Gortex-down sleeping bags

McHale & Company
281-7861

29 Dravus Street, Seattle

Intersection of Nickerson & Dravus, 4 blocks west of southside Fremont Bridge.



Seattle FABRICS

Outdoor & Recreational Fabrics

Special Orders • Shipping Anywhere

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • Gore-Tex® | • Taffeta | • Sunbrella® | • Outerwear Patterns |
| • Ultrtex® | • Ripstop | • Textilene | • Zippers |
| • Supplex | • Oxford | • Closed Cell Foam | • Hardware |
| • Polartec® | • Packcloth | • Mosquito Netting | • Webbing |
| • Lycra | • Cordura | • Canvas | • Heat Sealable Fabrics |
| • Spinnaker | • Ballistics | • Grommets | • Banner Fabrics |

OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY
9 TO 5

9 TO 7 THURSDAYS

CATALOG \$3—REFUNDABLE WITH ORDER

206-632-6022

FAX 206-632-0881

Please call for new location after June 1, 1996
3876 Bridge Way North, Seattle, 98103

SEVERAL GOOD REASONS TO USE PARGETER MAPS

- They provide an economical **BIG PICTURE** for mountain travelers!
- They are beautiful bird's eye view oblique angle images illustrated in full color from USGS quads.
- They are large, info packed formats averaging 24" x 32" covering the Olympic Mountains, North Central Cascades, North Cascades East and North Cascades West - Thousands of square miles!
- Richard Pargeter's popular pictorial relief maps delightfully portray our mountains more quickly for most users.
- They are excellent planning tools - find hundreds of lakes, peaks, streams and valleys across the breadth of the ranges in their uncut relationships.
- Copious overprinting gives road and trail locations, ID numbers, trail point-to-point distances and elevations.
- Great quantities of really usable info for less money. Don't be without them.

Please ask for **PARGETER MAPS** at map and sporting goods stores or at stores along the Cascades and Olympic highways.

Or send 6.50 each (ppd) for quick delivery, to:

R.A. Pargeter, POB 844, Kent, WA 98035. Thank you!

CLASSIFIED ADS

40 cents a word. Payment must accompany classified ads. Deadline first of month.

MORNING HILL NEWS

Naturalist essays, land-conscious living, delicious healthy recipes.

Published bi-monthly;

\$9/year. Checks payable to

Jennifer Stein Barker:

Morning Hill News

HC 84 Box 632

Canyon City OR 97820.

PROPERTY CARETAKING JOBS AVAILABLE

Property caretakers enjoy rent-free living! Worldwide! 80+ caretaking opportunities in each issue

The Caretaker Gazette

1845 Deane-Y

Pullman WA 99163-3509

509-332-0806

\$24/year

OUTWARD BOUND SPORTS

Name Brand Quality Sporting Goods At or Below Cost

Summer Goods Closeout

All Day Packs, Tents

and Hiking Boots

Priced to move

10025 Main Street

Olde Bellevue

206-453-3253



A Shop That Brings
People and Nature
Together

- Optics—Binoculars & Scopes
- Birdseed Blends
- Tapes
- Birdfeeders
- Housing

• Books & Guides

On the waterfront... overlooking the fishing fleet

3711 Harborview Drive

Gig Harbor WA 98332

206-851-2575

Pack & Paddle[®]

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 9

RANDOM VIEW—



Noelle Roedell at Camp Muir, Mount Rainier, on a warm summer day.

Features

- 22 ENCHANTMENT LAKES
Dave Parent
- 23 THE MISTS OF TIME AND FOGGY MEMORIES
Martin Messing
- 24 CHELAN SUMMIT TRAIL
Charlie Hickenbottom
- 25 REI'S NEW STORE
Ann Marshall
- 27 COUGAR FIRES
Ruby El Hult
- 28 RESCUE EPICS
Deborah Riehl

Departments

- 4 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
- 6 BACKCOUNTRY NEWS
- 29 PANORAMA — News from All Over
- 30 REST STOP — Recipes, Equipment, Tips
- 31 EDITOR'S JOURNAL

COVER PHOTO:

Amid golden larches, Phil Glass looks toward Crazy Man Pass and Andrew Peak from a ridge southeast of Peepsight Mountain. Pasayten Wilderness, Washington. Photo by Lee McKee.

HOW TO BE A PACK & PADDLE CONTRIBUTOR:

Send us your stories, reports, and photographs. *Pack & Paddle* is written by its readers and we welcome your ideas, input, and material. Submissions are considered contributions—if payment is requested it will be a modest amount. We take great care in handling your work, but we cannot guarantee against damage to or loss of materials. Please don't be offended if we can't use your stories or photos.

Need more guidance? We'll send our Writers' Guidelines; just ask. And we're always happy to discuss an idea with you on the phone: 360-871-1862.

...

Hiking, backpacking, climbing, skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing, kayaking and related activities are potentially hazardous. It is the responsibility of the individual to learn and understand the proper techniques associated with safe participation in these activities, and to fully accept and assume all risks, damages, injury or death which may result from following route descriptions or other advice in this publication. This publication is not meant as a substitute for personal instruction by a qualified person.

...

PACK & PADDLE (ISSN 1059-4493) is published monthly by Pack & Paddle Publishing, Inc. Office of publication is 4450 Lakeview Dr SE 98366 (do not send mail here). Mailing address is PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366. Telephone is 360-871-1862. Subscription rate is \$18 (US funds) for one year. Washington residents add \$1.46 state sales tax. Periodicals Postage Paid at Port Orchard WA 98366. Printed by Little Nickel, Lynnwood WA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pack & Paddle, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366.

Staff

Publishers: A. Marshall and L. McKee
Editor: Ann Marshall
Business Manager: Lee McKee
Administrative Assistant: Yellow Cat

With help from: All Readers

These nice folks have helped us by sending articles from their local papers and newsletters. Thanks to our "Clipping Service" this month:

Karlyn Black
Louise Marshall
Randy Patterson



printed on recycled paper
with soy-based ink

©1996 Pack & Paddle Publishing, Inc.
All rights reserved.

This is an open forum and does not necessarily express the opinions of the publishers

RAINIER ERRATA

Two slip-ups appear on the Mount Rainier Peaks list (*August, page 29*).

1. The prominence of "11,700 Gendarme" is better noted as 88 feet.
2. The Plummer-Pinnacle Saddle is 5920 feet, giving Plummer Peak (6370 feet) a prominence of 450 feet.

John Roper
Bellevue, Washington

Ed. Note: We regret the errors. All readers, please make these corrections on your own copies.

STUFF THAT MATTERS

While walking a trail, recently, in what might be described as "Roper-Fry Country," my companion and I discussed at length our reasons for much preferring to read of their strenuous non-expeditions than about the showbiz in the Himalaya. In olden days we were faithful subscribers to the alpine journals and devoured their pages of exploits all the way down to the fine print of "Other Ascents."

Why was it we dropped our subscriptions? The Technicolor costumes? Freeze-dries? Relentless high-tech? Helicopters? Or that reek so foreign to noses of our Khaki Gang, famously celebrated by Liza Minelli in *Cabaret* with her song, "Money money money makes the world go round"?

Or was it that the expeditions no longer stayed where they belonged, in the journals, but were slopping over into the magazines and newspapers, mingling there with "mountain" bikes and jumping off bridges with ropes tied to ankles?

We concluded that the key to our change in tastes was boredom. Those faraway excrescences of sterile rock and way too much ice and not enough air are not "our matter." They were when they were rarely climbed, if at all. Nowadays they don't matter. Not to us.

Should we chance on an alpine journal—say, in a dentist's waiting room—a few minutes suffice for a flip-through and a ho-hum.

But when we open *P&P* and find the latest report by Roper on an Extreme in the land where we live, the world around us goes blank and dumb while we read. Gripped. This is stuff that matters.

Aside from non-adventures (remem-

ber Stefansson's dictum, "An adventure is a sign of incompetence"), we admire the scholarship of the Roper-Fry School, and that is the reason for this letter—to suggest a subject to which they might well put their minds.

In considering the concept of "the pole of remoteness," there was a time when I made up my personal short list of candidates, including, for example, Queets Basin.

Bear Lake was my favorite until the Canadians built a logging road to Chilliwack Lake, and climbers used the spur road up Depot Creek to make Redoubt a weekend ascent from Vancouver.

Having looked at Picket Pass from both sides of the ridgeline, and heard horror stories told by climbers who had been inveigled into doing the Picket Traverse by the Taber-Crowder guidebook, I tend toward that as my current vote.

However, "the pole" never has received the scholarly attention given subalpine "matter" by Roper-Fry. I urge them to take it up, and will watch *P&P* in hopes of seeing their assessments of the candidates.

Harvey Manning
Bellevue, Washington

LOOWIT TRAIL

I have just read the letter to you from Lenn Smith (*August, page 4*). As I have hiked 190 miles of Saint Helens trails in the last two months I feel I am in a position to comment on the condition of the Monument's trails. I am working on a summer trails guidebook for the Monument on behalf of Mountaineers Books, which will be available next spring in book stores.

Although many trails are still closed due to the February storm damage I have hiked many miles of them with a "special use permit" from the Forest Service so I have experienced miles of damage-closed trails and I feel qualified to compare them with the open trails.

First off, the storm damage was extensive and due to trail and road work priorities and a shortage of manpower and funds, the Monument is facing an almost impossible task of clearing the majority of trails even by fall.

I have hiked all the Loowit except 4 miles east of Castle Ridge and every connector trail to the Loowit. I have not had any problems other than downed

trees across the trails which are always passable (sometimes with difficulty).

The canyons, both on the east side and west side, that offer difficulty will always be problems all summer and every summer, due to the unstable loose nature of the surface on the steep slopes. It is impossible to maintain a solid tread on these unstable, sandy slopes regardless of the efforts by the Forest Service.

Yes, some of these canyons are intimidating, particularly if carrying a heavy pack as the tread is often reduced by natural erosion to only footsteps.

An avalanche did carry hundreds of small trees down a gully this spring on the west side of Ptarmigan Ridge, and I had to take ten minutes to struggle through and over the clats.

The trees-across-the-trail problem will always be with us. The dead trees, now weakened by root rot, have little support and frequently crash from wind. Again it's impossible to keep them all cut away.

Northwest Youth Corps of Eugene has done an excellent job of trail maintenance. Many steep slopes will always cause build-up of debris on the best trail, and a trail declared "clear" today could in a week have a half-dozen trees down. The Forest Service cannot make daily, nor even weekly, inspections of each trail.

I believe Mr. Smith has been severe and unfair in his criticism of the Monument for problems that are endemic and beyond control.

The Monument trails are unique and spectacular and hikers should not be intimidated to try them. It's an adventure and will always offer a challenge to all hikers. On Monument trails, hikers should use a hiking staff or ski poles for those unstable, difficult areas. Be prepared and enjoy the challenge!

Klindt Vielbig
Portland, Oregon

TUBAL CAIN MINE

The reference to the Tubal Cain name (*August, page 39*) is in Genesis 4:22 where he is referred to as "the forger of all implements of bronze and iron." (NASB). Since he was the "granddaddy" of coppersmiths the owners of the claim may have felt that they had the "granddaddy" of all copper mines.

The reference in the Masonic work alludes to the verse in Genesis as well

LETTERS to the EDITOR

This is an open forum and does not necessarily express the opinions of the publishers

and so it is possible one or more of the original owners of the claim were Freemasons.

Curt Browning
Keyport, Washington

MOTORCYCLIST SPEAKS OUT

The barrage of complaints and opinions fielded by Peg Ferm in her report on the Mad River (*August, page 13*) hardly deserved being passed off as a "trail report."

Shame on *Pack & Paddle* for attempting to do so! The article was nothing but a biased, editorial tirade against the Forest Service and other users.

Ms. Ferm's reference to "meadows of flowers" rutted by "razzers" clearly marks her as a disciple of the infamous Harvey Manning, well known to be intolerant of almost everybody but hikers on trails, and sometimes not even them. ...

The vast majority of trails in this area are in excellent condition with virtually no damage anywhere of the type Ms. Ferm alludes to. While a few very short sections of trail with excessive rutting do exist on trail 1417 near the log cabin, the upper section of trail 1419 and section of trail 1415 between these trailheads, most are being repaired with volunteer trail work from equestrian and motorized users during the summer.

However, to allege trail damage and then turn around and chastise the Forest Service for maintaining the Mad River recreation trails in top condition for all users takes incredible gall ...

You cannot have it both ways. The concrete grid (not the same as concrete blocks) is used on steep and soft spots precisely to prevent the very rutting complained about. It works well, is compatible with all allowed trail use, and is much cheaper than relocating and rebuilding new trails.

Bridges allow horses, bicycles, motorcycles, and yes, even hikers, to traverse difficult or dangerous terrain or cross water at locations which are prone to excessive soil displacement and erosion if left unbridged.

For the reader's edification, most of the capital funds used to harden the tread and build bridges on these trails came from IAC grants from the NOVA ORV fund, moneys which are paid for by the motorized users, not the Forest Service.

It might surprise the reader to know that the vast majority of Forest Service trail maintenance funds go to non-motorized trails, not motorized trails.

If Ms. Ferm thinks the amount of funds spent on the Mad River multiple-use trails is obscene, I wait in breathless anticipation at her choice of adjectives when she finds out that it costs the Forest Service *one and a half to three times more per mile* to maintain Wilderness trails than the motorized, multiple-use trails. ...

Roderick M. Jones
Northwest Motorcycle Association
Issaquah, Washington

Ed. Note: We thought Peg's report provided useful information to other hikers and was not "a tirade against the Forest Service and other users." The Mad River trail, in Wenatchee National Forest, is open to all users including motorcyclists and hikers. Rod's letter provides the motorcycle users' viewpoint.

Concerning trail maintenance costs, Monty Heath, of the Wenatchee Supervisor's Office, told us that it is difficult to come up with numbers for maintenance of motorized vs. self-powered trails. "It depends on how much damage has occurred over the winter, how far crews have to go in, and the specific nature of the work," he said.

30 YEARS AGO

It was interesting to read your "30 Years Ago" item in the July issue (*page 38*). I was one of those favored by the first issue of *Signpost* (still have them in binders—a collectors' item).

I also remember the first printing of *100 Hikes in Western Washington*, which I have still. I recall Louise's comment (in the first *Signpost*, I think) that it was "selling like hotcakes."

Frank Sincock
Bellevue, Washington

Ed. Note: My mother's book 100 Hikes in Western Washington (the first of the now-famous series) was on the Seattle best seller list the whole summer of 1966.

It was in the August 10, 1966, issue of Signpost that she noted the book was "selling like hotcakes." Its price was \$4.65—including tax and postage.

The same issue also noted that REI had 35,000 members. And that Frank Sincock had the "Lost Hiker" billing that week!

BOBCAT

After reading your bobcat story (*August, page 39*), I thought I'd share mine with you.

I saw one cross a paved county road one afternoon about 2pm. My brain was on autopilot, so my first (internal) reaction was: "not-a-canid." Fairly quickly translated into "felid."

It was leggy, short-furred, and business-like. A wild animal going about the fairly serious business of life. It scooted up the bank; disappeared in the brush. I stopped the car, looked in. It was looking back. Peering. Making sure, I suppose, that I wasn't coming after it.

Close encounters of the second kind?

Peg Ferm
Monroe, Washington

CAMP EXCHANGE

A guy camped across from me at Camp Pleasant had an outrageous idea. At least I thought it was. What do you think?

He said his idea was a "camp traverse." Say your team hikes in around 8 miles and sets up camp. Your partner team does the same thing, but at the other end of your trail.

The next day, you leave your camp as if for a day hike, leaving your camp set up. You meet the other team halfway and exchange car keys and instructions for operating stoves, taking down tents, etc. You continue to their camp and they continue to yours, and the next day you hike out, meet at a prearranged spot and trade gear and cars.

I think it's a great idea! Of course, you can't be too fussy about certain things, like having someone else use your gear, or using someone else's.

Do you know anyone who has done this? How did it work out? Was everyone still friends when it was over?

You could do it with canoes, bicycles—there are so many possibilities!

Well, if nothing else, you should get a laugh out of it.

Kerry Gilles
Westport, Washington

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS





REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION

See "How to be a *Pack & Paddle* contributor" on page 3. All readers are encouraged to contribute to *Backcountry News*. Information that is particularly helpful includes: distance & elevation gain, condition of trail or route, hazards such as tidal currents, rockfall, avalanche danger, washouts, bees' nests, etc., and pleasant or fun things you encountered.

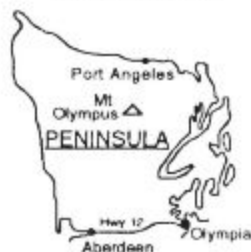
Space is limited; we may have to cut your report to fit available space. Typing is not necessary; we can read just about anyone's handwriting. We're interested in ALL trips, easy and hard, ordinary and exotic.

We use the following symbols to help you plan your trips.

-  —Climbing, scrambling, mountaineering, off-trail and cross-country travel.
-  —Hiking, backpacking on trails.
-  —Canoeing, kayaking and water trips.
-  —Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



PENINSULA



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Roads and trails open and snowfree.

MARROWSTONE / INDIAN ISLANDS (NOAA 18464)—

Eight single kayaks and one double spent the better part of the day on this Mountaineer Club paddle exploring the upper portion of Kilisut Harbor between Marrowstone and Indian Islands. The put-in was the public launch at Mystery Bay State Park just past Nordland on Marrowstone Island. The warm shallow waters of the bay were soon replaced by the deeper and cooler waters of the harbor as we headed north along the shore of Marrowstone.

A slight northerly breeze helped cool us on this hot clear day as we paddled. It was roughly 4 miles from the put-in to our first stop at Fort Flagler State Park at the north end of the island. Part way up we passed through an area of many sand dollars living on the harbor bottom—dark colored live ones interspersed with light colored dead ones.

After a lunch break at the park, we headed out into Admiralty Inlet to ex-

plore some of the north shore of the island. The gentle breeze wasn't enough to stir up much wave action so the paddling was very easy.

Fort Flagler State Park basically encompasses all of the north end so the shore on the Admiralty Inlet side is available for public access, too. The Cascadia Marine Trail campsite is located on this side. As we paddled along, we saw two river otters swimming close to shore. They made their way onto the sand beach, then watched us as we passed.

With our return trip still facing us, we turned around before reaching Marrowstone Point. Once back into the harbor we headed over to the Indian Island side of the harbor for the return. Except for a small park on the southwest end, Indian Island is an off limits naval reservation. The Port Townsend Bay side is where Navy ships tie up, but the Kilisut Harbor side is basically undeveloped. A number of kingfishers swooped down from the trees at one point as we followed the shoreline until we could see the opening for Mystery Bay on the other side of the harbor.

The northerly breeze created only minor wind waves as we made the 1-mile crossing back to Marrowstone Island and our take out. The clear skies and gentle breeze made for a very pleasant day of paddling.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/25.



HAPPY LAKE RIDGE TRAIL (Olympic Natl Park;

USGS Lk Sutherland, Lk Crescent)—We left Aberdeen at 4:30, arrived at

trailhead 8pm. After hiking uphill for 3 miles we found in the dark a flat enough spot to set up the tent.

In the middle of the night we felt the ground rumble and heard the sounds of what must have been a large herd of elk down behind us.

In the morning we had only to hike another mile before coming to the path that led us down to Happy Lake. Four good campsites and we were the only ones there. It was evening before a lone hiker came in. We day-hiked to the Aurora Divide trail intersection where we sat and ate lunch. We saw many dirt mounds, logs torn apart and bark peeled from trees on this stretch of trail.

Because of the extreme hot weather the avalanche lilies were mostly wilted but the lupine smelled good. We found only one small underground stream to fill our water bottles. On our return trip Don climbed what we named "Happy Rock" while I sat in the shade to rest.

There are many downed sub-alpine trees to get over. The mosquitoes bit hard and fast after the sun went down. Sunday on our hike down and out we noticed an arrow that was shot high into a tree. The long downhill was hard on the knees.—Don Abbott & Kerry Gilles, Grays Harbor, 7/13-14.



OZETTE to DUK POINT

(Olympic Natl Park; USGS Ozette)—Ozette Ranger Station to Duk Point is a pleasant beach hike of approximately 8 miles, including the 3.3 miles along the boardwalk to Cape Alava with its infamous raccoons.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

Our camp for the two nights at the mouth of the Ozette River was shared by three troops of Boy Scouts who provided a fair amount of lively entertainment swimming in the surf and river, climbing over headlands or taking forays for water back to the south to avoid drinking the brackish Ozette River water.

We opted for the tannic tea of the major stream just north of Duk Point, when high tide persuaded us to turn back about 2 miles from the Point of Arches and the beginning of Shi Shi. However, the beach between Father and Son rocks and Duk Point provided us with a great variety of driftwood and rock collecting opportunities.

Good tidal pools at the Ozette River headland and the typical wildlife, including the many deer, provided additional photo and video ops.

Novice beach hikers will find helpful information at the Ozette Ranger Station. Camping is by reservation permit with a 300 daily quota.—J & D, Bellingham, 7/31-8/2.

MOUNT ELLINOR (*Skokomish Wilderness; USGS Mt Washington, Mt Skokomish*)—To summit of Mount Ellinor. Fields of wildflowers. Four mountain goats on Washington, two nannies, two kids.

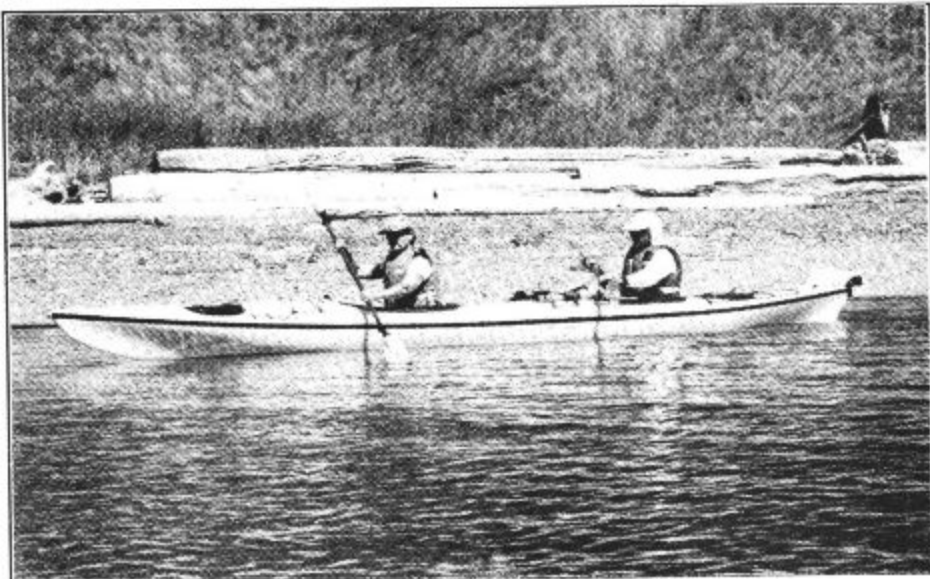
Good visibility to west, north, only top two-thirds of Rainier visible above haze. Recent work on trail, improved over past years.—Paul G. Schauler, Olympia, 8/10.

ALPHABET RIDGE, UPPER GARGOYLE, BOULDER RIDGE (*Buckhorn Wilderness & Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Deception*)—Mike Raymond and I headed out to climb the Warrior Peaks by way of the ridge from Cloudy Peak. On Saturday, we left the Dungeness trailhead at 9am. We arrived at Boulder Shelter several hours later where we spent time talking with the ranger and his trail crew. Many thanks to their tireless efforts.

We left Boulder Shelter and took the waytrail to the ridge above Charlia Lakes. From here we climbed Cloudy Peak and then planned to move on to Alphabet Ridge. We left our bivvy gear at the base of Cloudy and then proceeded to climb Zee and Why Spires.

We traversed around Ex Spire to climb Curiosity Peak. On the return we attempted Ex Spire, but must have got the wrong route. After several attempts on the rotten rock we opted to try another day.

We ate a late dinner and then climbed



Judi and Bill Maxwell paddle along the shore of Marrowstone Island.

Lee McKee

into our sacks to watch the lights of the I-5 corridor turn on. This was one of our best bivvy sites ever. The Constance massif to the south, Mystery, Deception, and the Needles to the west. Alphabet Ridge and the lighted I-5 corridor to the east. It finally got dark at 10pm.

After a cold breakfast and a brief change in the climbing itinerary we glissaded and down-climbed to Charlia Lakes. Due to the snow conditions we opted to do Warrior later this summer. From Charlia Lakes we climbed to the Boulder-Gargoyle saddle where we dropped our packs. From here we headed south to climb the Upper Gargoyle. Great rock (not rotten) made it a fun scramble.

After gathering our gear we climbed Boulder Ridge, stopping to walk to the summit of Boulder Peak. From here we worked our way off the ridge toward Marmot Pass. We dove off the ridge just short of Marmot Pass, and ended up at Boulder Shelter. Here we spent a good half hour trying to rehydrate. The lack of water was our only problem for the weekend. We highly recommend this trip.—Chas Pauly, Hadlock Mountaineering Club, 7/6-7.

THE NEEDLES (*Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Deception*)—This HMC adventure began on a very warm and sunny Tuesday morning at the Dungeness trailhead. Fellow HMC member and climbing partner Mike Raymond, my brother Bob from Long Island and I began the long and peaceful hike up Royal Creek to the upper basin.

We set up camp near the large tarn in the upper basin. The rest of the day we

spent planning our route up the moraine to Surprise Basin and which routes we wanted to try on Martin Peak and Mount Johnson.

The next morning found us on the top of the moraine at 7am and in line to kick steps up the steep slope to the rock gullies on Martin Peak. We chose a route up to the Deception-Martin Peak ridge, then followed the ridge to the summit. A real straightforward route.

The views from the summit were spectacular. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. Mystery, Deception, the Constance massif, Olympus, Anderson/West Peak, the Bailey Range, and the Elwha Peaks were clearly discernible.

We decided not to traverse the ridge to Mount Johnson but to descend to the basin, have lunch and then lay in a "snow trail" up to Surprise pass. We would use this trail for our climb of Mount Clarke the next morning.

After lunch, brother Bob and I headed up the basin and started up Mount Johnson route 1. We climbed the summit via the easternmost chimney. We filled out the summit register and headed right back down. The heat, direct sunlight, and lack of water had really taken its toll. We met Mike in the middle of the basin and headed down the moraine to camp.

Thursday morning the three of us headed up the basin on our prepared

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS DEADLINE: September 20

Submit your trail reports by this date for the next issue. (Deadline for other departments is earlier; check with us for details.)

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS


REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

snow highway. It made the travel much faster. The climb of Clarke was enjoyable and interesting. I agree with the climbers' guide that it is one of the better climbs in the Olympics.

As we descended to camp we observed mare's tails in the sky. We begin to doubt our chances of climbing Mount Walkenshaw on our way out on Friday. When we arrived at camp, we found it occupied by Nancy Wyatt, Kathy Wales, and my wife Joan. They had arrived at Shelter Rock at 10pm the night before.

We sat and ate, drank coffee, and played bridge while enjoying the snow covered walls that surround the upper basin. A stiff breeze kept the area bug-free. We eventually packed up and headed down to Shelter Rock to camp since our plan was to be up early for Walkenshaw.

When we went to bed the rain began. Friday morning found us packing up and heading home under very cloudy skies. We had spent several wonderful days filled with great climbs and fine company. Who could ask for anything more?—Chas Pauly, Hadlock Mountaineering Club, 7/30-8/2.

 **DODGER POINT** (*Olympic Natl Park; USGS Hurricane Hill, Mt Queets*)—We decided to take four days to visit Dodger Point and hike in the vicinity of Ludden Park. In contrast to the rainy and cloudy Fourth of July weekend, one week later we had clear and very warm weather.

On the first day, we decided to take it easy and camp in the vicinity of Idaho Creek, about 2.8 miles from the Whiskey Bend trailhead and just before the suspension bridge across the Elwha. The hike up the 10.5-mile Long Ridge trail the next day was long and gradual, with many switchbacks over the first 4 miles.

We had no views the first half of this leg, but were grateful for the shade. There were a few minor seeps of water and one small stream about a mile north of the meadow below Dodger Point, but these likely will be dry later in the season. About 4:30 in the afternoon, we reached the meadow below Dodger Point, and refilled our canteens from a tributary of Long Creek still fed by lingering snow patches.

Dodger Point is another ½-mile and 500 feet above the meadow. We camped on top by the old fire lookout and were treated to a knock-your-socks-off 360-degree panorama of snowcapped peaks, Hurricane Ridge, and a sliver of the strait to the north.

On the way up we met a pair of apparently novice campers, a Seattle

woman recently married to her Russian émigré husband who was a wildlife biologist, who explained they had hiked from their car on Hurricane Ridge to Ludden Peak with the intent of crossing the Bailey Range, but had turned back because of deep snow. We managed to dissuade them from descending the Semple Plateau trail and wading across the Elwha, which is too high this time of year. The four of us swatted mosquitoes and watched the sunset together.

On the third day, we dayhiked the unmaintained Ludden Peak trail to try to reach the saddle between Ludden and Scott peaks. We gave up in the heat after little over a mile, however, when the trail petered out in a snow chute about ¼-mile short of our destination.

Turning back, we encountered a small black bear munching grass about 50 feet from the junction of the Ludden and Semple Plateau trails, and decided to descend the Semple Plateau trail and give the bear time to move on. Later that afternoon, we returned to our camp and moved our tent to the meadow below where the bugs seemed to be more tolerable.

We hiked the entire 13-plus miles out the next day, but left early enough to do most of it in the shade.—Jack Lattemann and Doug Johnson, 7/12-7/15.

 **RACCOON REPORT, Cape Alava and Sand Point**

(*Olympic Natl Park; USGS Ozette*)—We hiked to Cape Alava one night and Sand Point the next. I have been there many times but it was the first overnight hike for my two eastcoast grandchildren. Grandma (my wife) and the two parents went along. The weather was great.

Raccoons have been a problem at these popular campsites for years but this was worse. Leave your gear unattended for more than 3 minutes, or leave it more than 5 or 6 feet from your side and the raccoons are all over it exploring for food.

At night we put our food up the steel cable lines provided by the Park Service. In the middle of the night at Sand Point we heard noises and got up. The raccoons had no difficulty going out the cable and going around the disk which is supposed to keep them at bay.

Someone's food bag had been pulled all the way up, even with the horizontal cable. The raccoons were happily tearing open the bag and getting out the food. Our packs were suspended about 4 feet down the pulley line and they were not able to climb down to them.

I left our water bottles and water bag within their reach and all were opened,

apparently looking for lemonade.

The woods around all of the campsites are full of empty plastic food bags and containers of all sorts, attesting to the ease with which the raccoons find human food. Not a great diet for them.

Bottom-line: I suggest hiking with food in animal-proof containers even though they are expensive and add weight and bulk to our packs. If the food goes away, so will the pesky raccoons.—Joe Schuster, Bellevue, 8/5-7.

 **BOULDER LAKE TO APPLETON PASS LOOP—**

(*Olympic Natl Park; USGS Mt Carrie*)—Arrived with my kids, Casey (17) and Travis (15), at the Olympic Hot Springs trailhead at 7pm and hiked up the old road. Spent the night at the campground and started walking at 6:30am to beat the heat.

Made good time to Boulder Lake. Easily picked up the way trail to Lower Three Horse Lake as shown on the Custom Correct map. The trail forks into two equally-well-beaten tracks just above Boulder Lake. The fork to the right ascends the ridge. We took the fork to the left which contours around the ridge and drops abruptly into Three Horse Basin.

We lost the trail in the brush but the way was obvious to the beautiful blue lakelet below. Had a rest in the shade near the inlet stream, took a swim and ascended up the old, moss-covered talus then through high brush and krummholz. Stayed to the east of the small creek canyon, then broke out into a small basin with better visibility and easier travel to the top of the small pass just below Everett Peak.

Followed elk trails down to the aptly-named Blue Lake set amid meadows and groves of subalpine trees. We decided to continue up to Mud Lake (far more scenic than its name would imply). This lake is at least as large as some of the others on this loop but somehow got omitted from all the maps.

Mud Lake is set in a steep-walled cirque at the base of Mount Appleton and there aren't too many campsites in the area. Rather than descend back to Blue Lake we pitched the tent at the small pass at the Blue/Mud Lake divide. At dusk, admired bears and mountain goats grazing on the slopes above Blue Lake.

Early the next morning we headed up the partially snow-filled basin which Wood calls "Passout Pass." We chose to circle Mud Lake on the south side on talus and slabs to avoid steep scree on the other side. Easily ascended the partially snow-filled gully but ran into dif-

difficulties when the snow ran out.

The only way up the last fifty feet involved a somewhat exposed and tricky traverse on rotten, scree-covered rock. Traversed down through steep scree and trees to the beautiful and remote meadows and basins at the headwaters of the North Fork Sol Duc. Has anyone visited the tarns located on the lower ridge dividing the forks of the Sol Duc?

Ascended the northwest ridge of the Appleton massif at what looked like an appropriate spot and topped out to a drop-dead view of Mount Olympus with Seven Lakes Basin in the foreground and a sea of flowers close at hand. The descending traverse to Appleton Pass was long and alternated between "highway" elk trails, subalpine trees and steep unstable scree. Slow going.

We dropped to the pass right at the trail and enjoyed a huge lunch of most of our leftover food. Walked out to the car on the Appleton Pass trail. Stopped to admire the usual diverse cross-section of society on their way to, and camping at, the springs.

If I do this traverse again I would, as Wood recommends, go earlier in the year so the insects aren't so bad (they were abundant, especially in the meadows), the low brush is covered by snow, and the snowfield extends closer to the top of Passout Pass.

Solitude. Only saw one other party, camped at Blue Lake, on the whole off-trail section. No cairns at all.—Dave Parent, Freeland, 8/8-10.

SCOUT LAKE, Boulder Creek (Olympic Natl Park;

USGS The Brothers, Mt Washington)—The final push to Upper Lena Lake provided us with views of wildflowers in full glory and a good warm-up for the waytrails which lay beyond. The Colonel and I planned to spend five days exploring some of these routes.

The 1½ miles between Upper Lena Lake and Scout Lake Pass (5150 feet) followed a typical waytrail with some very good tread near the summit. Soon afterward about ¼-mile below Deerheart Lake was a meadow to the left at the foot of a small canyon. This was where the route forked in two directions, the right plunging steeply toward Scout Lake.

Our intention was to avoid this tricky route by going left following a longer, gentler course to the lake. But we missed the turn and soon found ourselves hovering over the notorious cliff-hanger route. Several hours later when we eventually returned to the meadow junction on the longer route we discovered our error. The left turn was not a path but small cairns about fifty yards

away leading across the meadow.

Meanwhile having arrived by mistake at the cliff we proceeded cautiously downward finding the experience somewhat less spooky than expected because of abundant sturdy roots serving as hand grips. A short steep ½-mile remained down to Scout lake. The path dead-ended at the lake in the heart of the real Olympics—wild, inaccessible and beautiful.

Our hope was to be able to exit the area on the mythical Boulder Creek Waytrail. A year of research, however, had produced only sketchy descriptions of three possible routes down the west slope of Boulder Creek Canyon to abandoned Road 2466. With some difficulty we managed to finally locate one of the possible starting points on the ridge. The absence of a view of Scout Lake was further evidence of multiple routes because one source mentioned a view of the lake on his route crossing this ridge somewhere else.

Decision time! Return to the Hamma Hamma by Lena Creek or Boulder Creek? With curiosity outweighing common sense we opted to take the 2-mile plunge toward the old road. This outrageous 1900-foot descent over precipitous old growth terrain offered no switchbacks, no views, and no water. We were relieved to finally make camp on the old road as planned.

Before finally arriving at the Hamma Hamma road the next morning we had to survive a treacherous crossing of one of the road washouts using a rope. (Ed. Note: See May, page 6; July, page 7; August, page 4.) Although we enjoyed our adventure tremendously, we agreed that the Boulder Creek portion of it was best suited for the extremely robust hiker with suicidal inclinations.—Henry Wyborne, Cheney, 8/1-5.

SLAB CAMP—Footlog washed out at Graywolf River; dangerous crossing.—Ranger, 8/12.

UPPER LENA LAKE—Camp in designated sites.—Ranger, 8/12.



Don Abbott

A young marmot on Mount Lena, Olympic National Park.

DUCKABUSH—Over 150 logs down between 10 Mile and Upper Duck.—Ranger, 8/12.

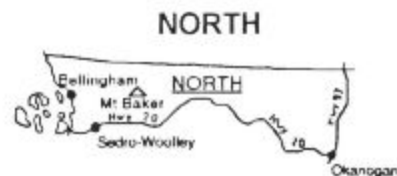
WEST FORK DOSEWALLIPS—Closed until late fall for replacement of High Bridge. No reroute.—Ranger, 8/17.

BOGACHIEL RIVER—Park at road washout 2 miles before trailhead. 65 trees across trail. Washout at Mosquito Creek and 800-foot washout at mile 12.—Ranger, 8/5.

HAYDEN PASS—Washout 1.5 miles below pass on the Elwha side.—Ranger, 8/10.

LOW DIVIDE—Active bears. HANG FOOD!—Ranger, 8/8.

SKYLINE TRAIL—Snowfree. Not marked, not maintained, not easy.—Ranger, 8/8.



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Roads and trails snowfree.

MAZAMA LAKE (Mt Baker Wilderness; USGS Baker Pass, Twin Sisters Mtn)—The to-be-converted-to-horse-access Ridley Creek trail

provides a quick route to Mazama Park and the entire Schriebers Meadow/Railroad Grade scene by way of the old or new Baker Pass trail.

As an aside, an easy day loop can be completed by way of the Bell Pass trail by following the drainage off Bell Pass back to the river and the Railroad Creek trail junction by bearing toward the unnamed creek to the east. The off-trail scene is also necessary to reach Little Mazama Lake.

At approximately the 2-hour mark at Ridley, bear north, remaining just east of a well defined ravine. Within 20 or 30 minutes this route should bring you to a small pond with more definition of an old trail route.

A hundred yards to the east, follow the route north up a ridge which quickly breaks into talus and the beginning of meadow. Prominent Meadow Point, an hour or so from the lake and slightly to its east presents an easy landmark.

As is typical of Meadow Point, the Denning Glacier gorge edge, while providing spectacular views across to the Black Buttes and Baker, which really dominates half of your view, is literally straight down for what looks like a couple of thousand feet. The inclusive area is well described in hike 20, *101 Hikes in the North Cascades*.

But for a quick hike with a great swim at the end and unsurpassed views of Baker, and the entire Sisters range, give Little Mazama Lake a go, in and out in 6 hours, including an hour's swim in the wonderfully refreshing 8 to

10 foot deep lake.—J & D, Bellingham, 7/19.

GROAT MOUNTAIN
(*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Groat Mtn*)—Reached on DNR road 1000, Middle Fork Nooksack road 37.

Groat caught our attention while hiking Grouse Ridge to Marmot Ridge on the west side of Baker three years ago. Since then, this double summit (5581 feet) has provided enjoyable but strenuous hikes for a 6-hour outing.

Like all of the Middle Fork area, Groat is an easy dayhike out of Bellingham where the trailhead is only an hour or two away. Park at the first closed road junction after turning on road 1200. Directly above you is Stewart.

Walk the closed road to the National Forest boundary, where an old survey (probably) trail will take you to the west-east ridge running from Stewart to Groat, then on the main south-north ridge of Groat which you can't miss because of its obvious well-used nature, and the more obvious very steep terrain and dropoffs to the east.

Remains of a horizontal control station will greet you on the higher summit to the north along with another unexcelled view from the more northerly ridges of Baker some 270 degrees around to the North Sister.

An alternate and likely easier route is to walk to the end of the closed road and begin the main ridge ascent at that

point. Old trail, including the removal of trees in the divide area between the summits, may derive from the control station activity.

From Grouse there is evidence of an old route toward Groat, and (possibly) an upper extension of the Clearwater trail which carries to a divide directly across from Heliotrope.—J & D, Bellingham, 8/96.

NORTH CASCADES NATL PARK
—For backcountry information, call the Wilderness Information Center, 360-873-4590. Permits are required for any overnight stay in the backcountry.

Cascade River road is open to Cascade Pass trailhead, but single lane and rough in places. Highway 20 is open; expect construction delays. Hozomeen road is open and has been graded.

Ross Lake is at full pool. Lots of floating debris in lake. Expect strong winds.

Big Beaver/Little Beaver loop has been maintained to Stillwell. Little Beaver has been cleared of downed trees but is brushy. Stillwell crossing is now bridged.

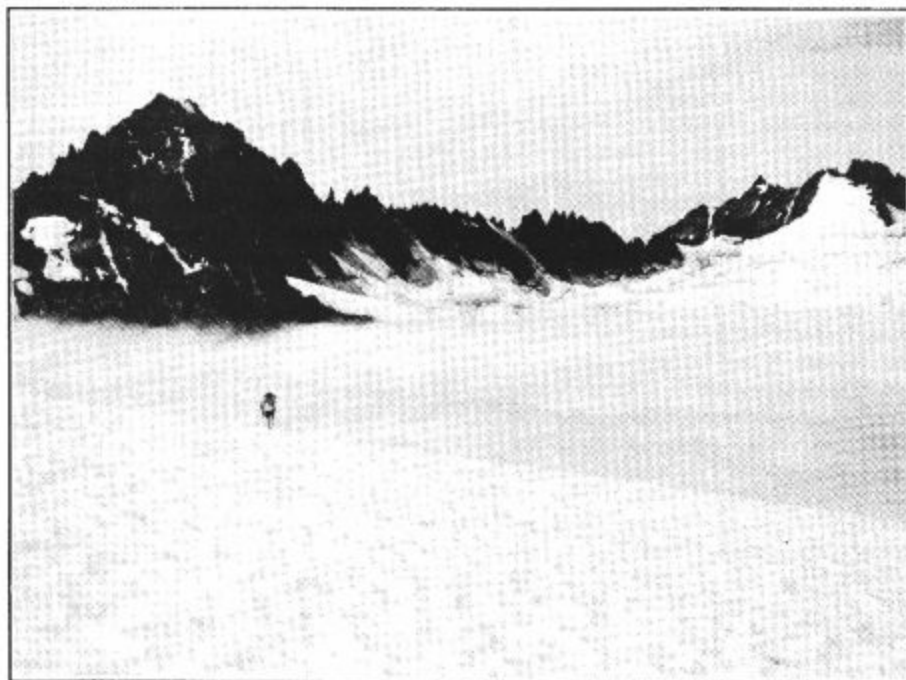
Bridge Creek trail has a lot of bear activity around Hideaway and Fireweed camps. Many downed trees west of Maple Creek. Trailhead on Stehekin Valley road not accessible by shuttle due to flood damage.

Easy Pass/Fisher Basin trail has bridge out at Granite Creek; difficult ford. Bridge below Cosho Camp washed out.

Ruby Creek trail has large, dangerous slide between East Bank and Canyon Creek trails—extremely hazardous!

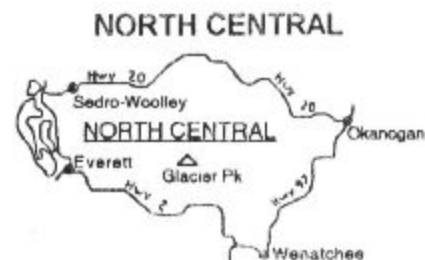
Thornton Lakes trail is brushy for 2 miles. First and second lakes thawed.—Ranger, 8/15.

MOUNT BAKER DISTRICT—360-856-5700. Canyon Creek road 31 is now open to end. Canyon Ridge road 3140 is washed out; closed until '97. Glacier Creek road 39 closed at milepost 4 through 11/1 due to planned restoration project; hike 4 miles on road to trailhead.—Ranger, 8/13.



Buckner and Ripsaw Ridge from Mount Logan. North Cascades National Park.

Grant Myers



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Roads and trails snowfree.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

H **HEATHER PASS** (*Okanogan Natl Forest; USGS Washington Pass, Mt Arriba*)—Twelve campers from the North Cascades Institute at Diablo Lake, five staff and two visitors set off for Heather Pass around 9:30am.

It was a hot and sunny day. The trail was wet in some places because it was crossed by water flowing from melting snow. We had lunch about halfway up sitting on avalanche boulders.

We found snow at the top and used our rain gear for sleds. We also made real snow cones. We got wet boots crossing a patch of snow—our feet went through to the water underneath.

It was cooler going back down. There were more streams and we saw some marmots. I highly recommend this hike.—Allison Bannerman, age 11, Bainbridge Island, 7/25.

E **ELDORADO PEAK** (*North Cascades Natl Park; USGS Eldorado Peak*)—I was looking forward to my Mountaineers climb of Eldorado and was thoroughly rewarded for my efforts with a memorable climb and terrific weather.

We left Seattle at 4:30am to meet our group and pick up our permit at the Marblemount Ranger Station when it opened at 7. Paolo, our leader, advised us to pack light and what good advice! The climbers' trail to the Inspiration Glacier and Eldorado Peak will deter many—a steep, muddy, rocky scramble through forest, over boulders, and up beautifully lush meadow. The views over my shoulder of Johannesburg with its hanging glaciers, Cascade Pass, and thoughts of dinner kept me going up, through the heat and biting flies.

We finally camped at about 7400 feet on the broad expanse of the Inspiration Glacier with tremendous views.

After a peaceful night in the open, we woke before dawn to begin our short hike to the summit. The morning was so balmy that we started out in shorts and t-shirts, continuing to marvel at the growing expanse of pink and yellow views. Eldorado is memorable for its distinctive knife-edge summit ridge. I can't think of a more satisfying climb for a summer's weekend.—Linda Olson, Seattle, 7/28-29.

D **DISHPAN GAP** (*Henry M Jackson Wilderness; USGS Blanca Lk, Benchmark Mtn*)—We've visited this area many times and still think it's one beautiful spot.

The road to the trailhead, which was in bad shape on our last trip, has been fixed and is in great shape except for the last rough mile, the section after

passing the trailhead to Benchmark Mountain.

The trail along the North Fork Skykomish River is fairly level till the last mile or so when you essentially gain all your elevation at once. Most of the blowdowns were cleared.

No bridge at the river crossing. Mr. Maphead (who's both brave and kind) crossed using the logs and rocks right at the trail crossing, and came back for my pack! I (the fraidy-cat) scooted over a larger log a bit upstream on my behind. I've worn out many a pair of pants that way! We trooped on.

One very nice campsite is just before reaching Dishpan Gap. We opted to go up to the gap and found one spot without snow to put our tent on. There's lots of snow still up there and lots of water as a result.

Day two we wandered out to the edge looking down on Meander Meadows, mostly walking on snow. The meadows looked brown and swampy so we passed on them. Then we hiked up to peak 6562, overlooking Blue Lake. The view was wonderful.

Day three we reluctantly hiked out. A great hike. Very few bugs. Saw 5 people in 3 days. We were surprised

how much snow is still on the ground and heard from one hiker that the high country is about a month behind normal melt-down schedule.—Mystery Hiker & Mr. Maphead, Granite Falls, 7/24-26.

M **MOUNT DICKERMAN** (*Baker-Snoqualmie Natl Forest; USGS Bedal*)—Dickerman again! This is the second time for me this year, but who's counting? The trail is in fine shape, long and steep. The one good water source along the way is no longer a stream but trickle.

All the snow is gone and I've never seen the upper meadows so beautiful! Our timing was perfect for full bloom. The view from the top, as always on a clear, sunny day, is incredible. No bugs, way fewer people on a weekday.—Mystery Hiker and Mr. Maphead, Granite Falls, 8/1.

B **BLANCA LAKE** (*HMJ Wilderness; USGS Blanca Lake*)—Another training hike for Alice and me in preparation for our Canadian Rockies trip. Excellent roads to the trailhead. Started hiking at 7:30 to beat the heat. Beautiful forest with old growth cedar. Tread in excellent shape

start
counting
YOUR
NEST
EGGS

Introducing...NEST EGG
certificates exclusively from
SWALLOWS' NEST

- Earn back **10%** of your purchases from the previous 6 months
- Nest Eggs can be earned from and applied to the purchase of **Sale or Non-Sale** merchandise
- Membership is **FREE**

Call or come in for details

SWALLOWS' NEST
2308 Sixth Avenue, Seattle 206-441-4100



BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

and showing recent maintenance. Solitude, however, was disturbed by the sound of constant rifle fire from somewhere down river on the North Fork Skykomish.

Met two backpackers with two beefy dogs coming out. The dogs carried packs and their owners carried "six-shooters" in hip holsters. I asked if they were hunting. No, they just wanted to be prepared if "anything happened."


Great views from ridge above Virgin Lake. Trail down to Blanca is as usual, terrible. Did this 20 years ago on a misty fall day and the wet roots and rocks were very nasty. Blanca Lake was glorious with outstanding views of Columbia, Monte Cristo and Kyes Peaks. Columbia Glacier seems almost gone. Bugs here and on the trail were almost non-existent, a pleasant surprise from their terror the last several weeks.

We met lots of people coming in as we hiked out. Some as late as 3:15 and very low on the trail. Less than 25% of the day hikers had anything resembling proper equipment or packs (many didn't have a pack). Most of them assumed we were overnighing.

The best, however, were the two fellows at about 4000 feet. One carried a medium size Igloo cooler on his head (of course, no pack) and the other had two fishing rods, a giant bucket and a tackle box. They asked which trail to

take to the lake (*any* lake, it seems).

Maybe Alice and I are just getting to be old foggy hikers. We were the oldest people on the trail all day.—Chuck Gustafson, Seattle, 8/11.

 **LAKE JANUS** (*Henry M. Jackson Wilderness; USGS Labyrinth Mtn*)—I volunteered to take six other mostly novice women hikers on an overnight trip, and this looked like a good destination.

We parked on Smithbrook road, which made our hike to the lake about 3½ miles one way. Even though the weather was overcast, and we knew we could expect rain in the evening, we headed out in high spirits, enjoying each other's company. There were a couple of blowdowns on the trail, but I believe the trail crew was due to clear them in the next couple of weeks. Otherwise, the trail was in good condition.

Campsites at the lake are large and well stomped-out. We counted 4 other parties camped there the next morning, at least two of which had small children. This makes a good place to take a family. We couldn't see or find the trail shelter, which I remembered seeing in years past. Did we miss it in the fog, or has it been removed?

After setting up camp, we day-hiked up the PCT another 2 miles, looking for non-existent views. On the way

back down to the lake, we passed two older gentlemen on their way to Stehkin, both of whom had done the entire PCT in previous years, and one of whom was on the board of the PCT Association.

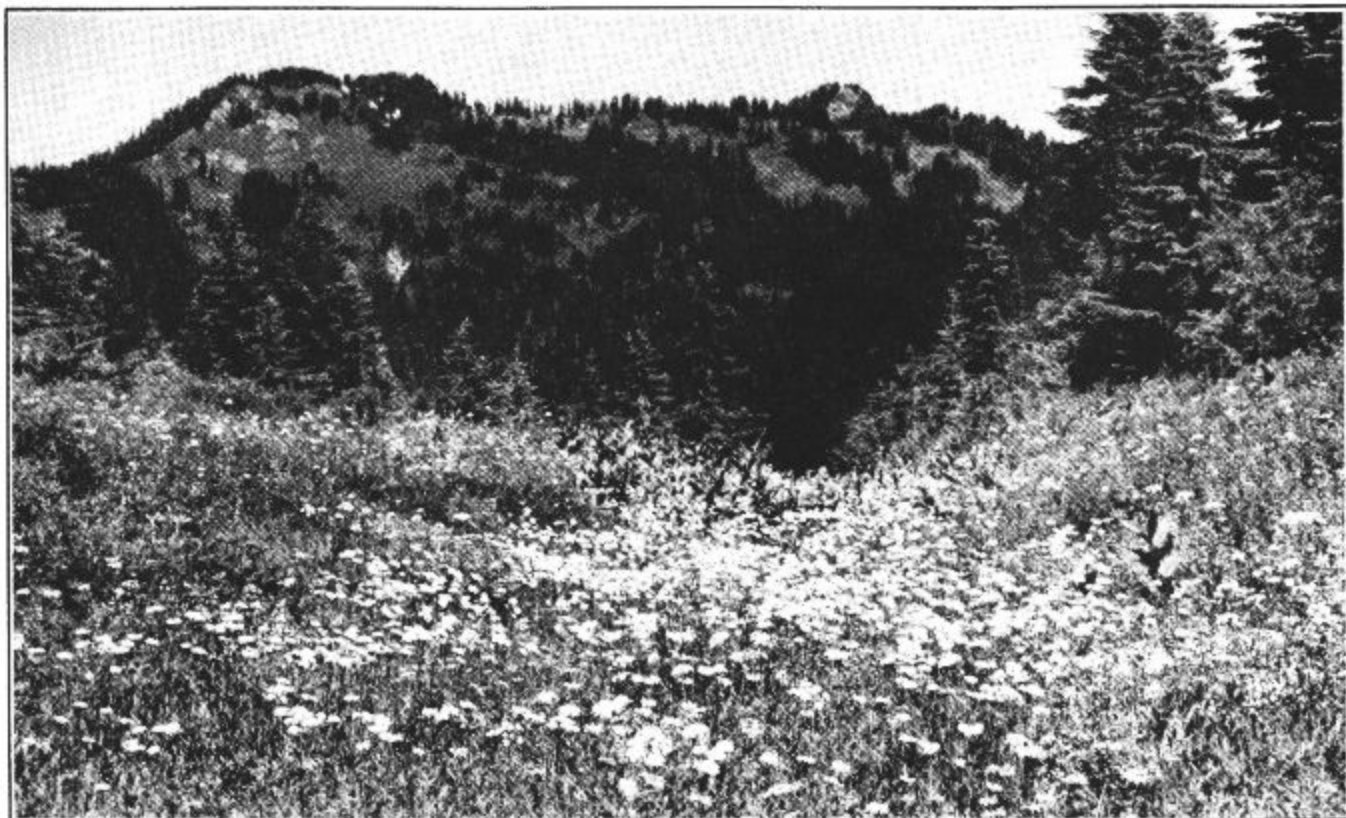
While we were chatting with them, two men in their late 20s passed us (or actually, flew by us), on their way to Monument 78. They were from Auburn, California, and were attempting to hike the PCT *north and south in one season*. They appeared to be traveling very light, and I'm sure were doing about 30 miles or more a day. Hope they make it!

We had a few showers after the sun set, and hiked out the next morning in a squall, but everyone agreed it was a great trip. They are all looking forward to next year's adventure.—Laura Wild, Marysville, 8/3-4.

DARRINGTON DISTRICT—360-436-1155. Many roads still have damage and washouts. Call Ranger Station for details. Suiattle River road is repaired and open.

Bedal Creek trail is unmaintained, with 16 downed logs; washed out in upper parts and marked with cairns. Ice caves at Big Four have formed. Downey Creek trail has lots of flood damage beyond 2.5 miles.

Milk Creek trail 790 has a 30-foot



Fields of flowers on West Cady Ridge, Henry M. Jackson Wilderness.

wide landslide about 1 mile up from junction with Suiattle River trail. Also more than 15 big trees down in first 4 miles. Monte Cristo road/trail has several washouts, with bypass trails.—Ranger, 8/15.

PCT—Skyline Bridge at the Suiattle River is repaired, but during high water doesn't reach all the way across. Kennedy Creek bridge is still out, but you can find a footlog. Snow is hanging in late.

The footlog crossing at South Fork Agnes (near Hemlock Camp) has collapsed. Use South Fork Agnes trail 1239 between Suiattle Pass and Hemlock Camp.—Ranger, 8/15.

CHELAN DISTRICT—509-682-2576. All roads are open and dusty. Bridge is washed out on the West Fork Agnes Creek trail 1272.—Ranger, 8/15.

ENTIAT DISTRICT—509-784-1511. Entiat River trail is maintained to Entiat Meadows.—Ranger, 8/13.

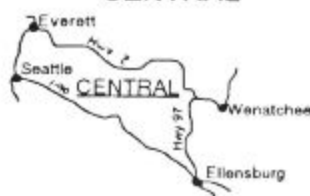
LAKE WENATCHEE DISTRICT—509-763-3103. Many roads still closed due to flood damage. They include: White River road 64 (should open early September); Chiwawa road 62 (should open early September); and Smithbrook road 67 (open to Little Wenatchee junction). Be sure to call for current conditions.—Ranger, 8/13.

STEHKIN—Damaged road between Car Wash Falls and Cottonwood is being converted to trail.

Shuttle bus will run until September 30. Due to extensive flood damage on the Stehekin Valley road, no shuttle service beyond High Bridge. Buses leave four times a day between 8am and 3pm. No reservations required; \$4 per person each way.

For boat information, call 509-682-2224.—Ranger, 8/8.

CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Roads and trails snowfree.

 **WEST FORK FOSS RIVER**
(Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Skykomish, Big Snow Mtn)—The first

¼-mile or so of the West Fork Foss trail 1064 is level but very rocky (possibly due to spring flood damage). Good, new foot logs with hand rails are now in place over the West Fork Foss River making for easy crossings.

A sign at Trout Lake cautions people not to tread on revegetation sites—in fact, only a small portion of the lake shore adjacent to the trail is open.

I'm all for revegetation and minimizing impact, but this project really seems overkill for a lake shore at 2100 feet on the west side of the Cascades with lowland vegetation abundantly growing in adjacent areas. The sign also notes that camping is allowed in only 5 designated sites. This must make for a real problem on weekends!

The trail starts climbing from Trout Lake, gaining just under 2000 feet in 2-plus miles to Copper Lake. Revegetation closure signs also greet you at Copper Lake, effectively blocking access to the lakeshore at the outlet stream.

The trail climbs above the cliffs along the east side of the lake. The lake is accessible in a few spots if you drop off the trail, with the possibility of limited camping if you can make do with a tiny spot. The best sites are at the north end

when you first reach the lake.

Past Copper Lake the trail gains a couple of hundred feet in elevation before reaching Little Heart Lake. Here are no revegetation closures blocking access and a number of good campsites. We chose one of them and had the lake all to ourselves for two nights! But we were probably quite lucky given the popularity of this area.

The next day we ventured to Big Heart Lake and beyond. The trail initially climbs 700 feet to 4900 feet elevation, then drops to 4600 at the lake outlet. Several campsites are obvious and there are more if you search around. Cliffs make access to the lake difficult except in the area of the outlet.

The trail officially ends a short way down the east side, but a good tread continues southeasterly toward Angeline. A description and general layout of routes past Big Heart can be found in Beckey. As you approach Angeline the way becomes more difficult to decipher with lots of possible ways to go.

Several tracks we followed dead-ended at cliffs high above the northwest corner of Angeline. Angeline is surrounded by cliffs and it appeared that access was only possible at the outlet

GREEN TRAILS MAPS

Explore your world
in 15 minutes

ONE OF THE TEN
ESSENTIALS FOR:

Hikers
Climbers
Thinkers
Kayakers
Mountain Bikers
Dreamers
Canoeists
Skiers
Doers

Find Green Trails Maps at the best outdoor, sporting goods, book, and map stores throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Call **1-800-762-MAPS**
for the store nearest you.

TENTS

New—Used—Mfg. Blems
over 250 in stock

	REG.	SALE
10 person full tent w/vest.	\$595	\$350
2 person full fly w/vestibule	\$150	\$ 79.95
6'x6.5' square dome	\$ 75	\$ 29.95
7' long one person bivvy	\$165	\$119.95
many more—all sizes		
Self-inflating Air Mattress		
72" long, 22 lb	\$39.95	

TRIGON BACKPACKS

Backpacker Magazine
"95 Editor's Choice"
6 models / 33% off

Complete Climbing Shop
Custom-made Gear

SPORTS REPAY

NOW IN OUR 13th YEAR!
NEW • USED • SECONDS

• CONSIGNMENTS •

5421 196th Street SW
Lynnwood WA 98036
206-775-4088

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

stream on the north end and at the south end. We followed one branch of the trail that appeared to drop to the outlet but turned around before we could verify that it did.

As we started to make our way back we met a family from Germany who had made the High Route traverse from the East Fork and Necklace Valley. They had lost the boot path as they made their way past the cliffs above the west side of Angeline and were glad to pick it up again where they met us.

This was my first time to really explore this area, and I was surprised by the preponderance of cliffs around the various lakes. I am used to being able to make my way along a lake's shoreline fishing but such is not the case with these lakes.—LGM, Port Orchard, 7/31-8/2.

SNOW LAKE by way of **Rock Creek** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Snoqualmie Pass*)—Try this for an enjoyable and lonely day hike, but come prepared.

Road 56 is "repaired" to Dingford Creek and beyond, politics being what they are. It's no work of art. At least the road is temporarily back to normal: impassable except with a high clearance vehicle.

Starting at the Dingford Creek trailhead on road 56, I crossed the Middle Fork Snoqualmie river on the high bridge. The trail follows the south bank of the river eastward along the river. The trail surface here is mostly firm and clear, except for a few soft spots churned by bike tires.

The first part of the trail has a feeling of old growth, and a strong river presence. Gradually the river and trail diverge. *100 Hikes* understates the distance, but little matter, these are easy miles. There is a slick-boulder crossing of Wildcat Creek just before 2 miles, followed by a long mile in second growth along an old road grade. This would be very enjoyable except for the stubble of 18" to 36" high pencil stumps from thinning.

The trail suddenly drops down from the grade to a single-log bridge over Rock Creek, then backtracks up the other side. The Rock Creek trail is found where the trail rejoins the old road grade, just over 3 miles from the trailhead.

The Rock Creek trail climbs persistently but gently on switchbacks. After 600 feet gain, there is sudden change to magnificent old growth. The moss gardens almost reclaiming the trail here are worth the trip if you go no



Alan Sherbrooke

High Pass trail south of Buck Creek Pass; Glacier Peak Wilderness.

farther. A couple of 3-foot logs to hop, and more elevation earned.

At about 2800 feet elevation, a mile and a half from the junction, the trail swings south into the Rock Creek valley. Open views here down toward the river and over the creek valley, featuring a roaring 1200-foot cascade.

Continuing, the brush begins to encroach. On this particular day, that meant dripping wet. I soon decided that soggy feet weren't so uncomfortable, and pressed patiently on through the thickening brush and long switchbacks. The trail was well constructed in hard, rocky ground, with only a couple of damaged spots. About a mile with minimal forward progress!

Finally, the brush thins. More switchbacks climb an open rock slope, welcome after the weeds. At the top of the rocks, a traverse passes thinner brush,

then a long rock field, soon reaching timber and easier trail. A short mile to go. A couple of wide switchbacks at 3800 feet, finally angling upward to the rim about 100 feet above Snow Lake. *Green Trails* shows this at 4.3 miles and 2500 feet elevation gained from the junction.

After the lonely trail—yes, the scenery at Snow Lake was nice, but it did not seem like a place to stay long. Given the physical damage, social justification is not required here for herd control. On the other hand, nobody was there this particular day. Except for one fat-tire biker near the trailhead, I didn't see a soul the entire trip.—Larry Trammell, Issaquah, 8/4.

BOOTJACK MOUNTAIN (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS*

Jack Ridge)—If the Fourth of July Creek trail is the best day hike for views in the Icicle Creek area (see *100 Hikes in the Alpine Lakes*), then the Blackjack Ridge trail must merit as one of the best view trails on a hot summer day. The trail up north-facing slopes stays in the shade of trees until reaching 6000 feet elevation. From there to the summit of Bootjack Mountain, 6789 feet elevation, views are supreme.

The trailhead is ¼-mile before the end of the Icicle Creek road. Parking is limited to one small spot along an adjacent side road.

The trail sees little use, but is in adequate condition. A half-dozen blow downs are easy to cross and the brushy sections on the lower portion of the trail aren't nearly as bothersome as the

ALWAYS CARRY THE TEN ESSENTIALS

1. extra food
2. extra clothing
3. map
4. compass
5. knife
6. matches
7. fire starter
8. first aid kit
9. sun protection
10. flashlight

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS


REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

brushy sections on the Fourth of July Creek trail.

The 4 miles or so to the summit gain about 4000 feet in elevation, so be ready for a steep workout. Water is scarce, so carry plenty. We saw no established campsites between trailhead and summit, presumably because of the lack of water along the trail.

The route to the summit leaves the Blackjack Ridge trail at a spot where the main trail drops into the basin above Dunn Creek. Tread exists most of the way to the top.

The final pitch to the summit is perhaps Class 2 and will be easy for most hikers who reach this point.—Charlie Hickenbottom, Wenatchee, 7/31.


 **KLONAQUA LAKES** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS The Cradle, Stevens Pass, Chiwaukum Mtns*)—I drove to Leavenworth and spent the night with my friend Kelly so that our friend Lisa and I could get an early start on a this wonderful hike. We unfortunately had to leave Kelly home with her newborn daughter Hailey Rose.

To reach the trailhead drive out Icicle Creek, turn left toward the Rock Island Campground and then right on road 2512. When the road ends the trail begins. It's 9.4 miles to the first lake, 2400 feet of elevation change.

The first 1.5 miles is easy going on a major trail that is the beginning for several other hikes as well. You then cross French Creek on a sturdy bridge and head up the valley pretty much following the creek. The way is brushy at times but fairly level and not too difficult.

The first 7.3 miles to the Klonaqua Lakes turnoff took us 4 hours (including lunch). The last 2.1 miles took us just about the same. It was steep and we went slower and slower as time went by. The first lake is good sized and very beautiful, with the majestic Granite Mountains as a backdrop. Good campsites at the outlet and another (better) just to the right on an obvious path.

The second lake appeared to be a good bushwhack around the first lake and up over another ridge. No people at the lake but us! Very few bugs. One good sized creek crossing that had no log and no rocks but was easily waded at this time. Klonaqua Lake is a beautiful spot on earth and Lisa and I had a great time.—Mystery Hiker and Lisa, Granite Falls, 8/7-8.

 **PEAK 6878** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Mount Stuart*)—This peak rises immediately southeast of Ingalls Pass and is the high point


on the ridge between Fortune (Point 7382) and Teanaway Peak (6779 feet).

With nearly 500 feet of prominence it is a true peak by the 400-foot rule. Its southwest side drains into Esmeralda Basin at the head of the North Fork of the Teanaway River. Its north and east sides drain to Ingalls Creek.

The wide south ridge is moderate talus and dirt, a Class 1 walk by traversing from Longs Pass. The northwest ridge is blocked just above Ingalls Pass by cliffy outcroppings which can be circumvented to the south, Class 2, which we did last year. This year we clambered up the southern edge of the west slope beginning at the lowest switchback on Ingalls Pass trail 1390 that is actually on the side of the peak (about 6100 feet).

This route consists of steep low rocky ridges with intervening gullies of loose soil and rock for 300 feet (Class 2), then less steep open shrubby talus to the top. Expect an unbeatable view of Mount Stuart, with innumerable additional nearby and distant peaks as well. Walking down the south ridge is the easiest descent; at the bottom, turn right through a few trees and descend a long talus slope down to trail 1390.

From the end of the road 9737 at 4200 feet round trips vary from 9 to 10 miles with about 2800 feet of gain. This is also a pleasant ascent from camps at Ingalls Pass or in Headlight Creek Basin.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 7/13.

 **FORTUNE PEAK, Point 7382** (*Alpine Lks Wilderness; USGS Mount Stuart*)—Fortune is the highest of the many tops surrounding Esmeralda Basin at the head of the North Fork Teanaway River north of Cle Elum.

Because it rises less than 200 feet above the low spot in the ridge leading north .5-mile to South Ingalls Peak, it does not satisfy the 400 foot criterion. Fortune is .9-mile west of Ingalls Pass and .5-mile east of the col just south of Lake Ann.

All approaches begin at the end of North Fork Road 9737 at 4200 feet. In her fine guidebook *Teanaway Country: a Hiking and Scrambling Guide to Washington's Central Cascades* Mary Sutliff suggests taking trails 1394 and 1226 to the 6400-foot pass south of Lake Ann then ascending just south of the west ridge, Class 2.

Indeed, the south slope could probably be scrambled anywhere between the Lake Ann pass and Ingalls Pass, Class 2. There appears to be an appealing route up good rock from the lowest switchback where trail 1390 meets the

creek draining Ingalls Pass; I have not tried it, but surmise a mixed Class 2 and 3 scramble would lead to near Camp Fire Girl Lake en route to the summit.

From trail 1390 at 6400-foot Ingalls Pass one could work directly up the east ridge, Class 2 to 3; this ridge has some ups and downs, adding to the total elevation gain.

From Headlight Creek Basin one could head straight for the summit, climbing left to the upper east ridge if the slope became too steep for comfort, Class 1 to 2.

Recently, from camp in snow-covered Headlight Creek Basin, we walked up the drainage just south of South Ingalls, then turned left below cliffs for a rising southwest traverse to the top, Class 1. A great glissade straight east from the summit returned us to camp in a jiffy.

From the top are wonderful views, especially of Mount Stuart, South Ingalls Peak, Hawkins Mountain and Esmeralda Peaks. Round trips from the car are between 9 and 11 miles, with a gain of 3200 feet.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 7/13.

LEAVENWORTH DISTRICT—509-548-6977. The Icicle Ridge trailhead is open unless posted closed when logging is underway. Contact the Ranger Station for details. Snow Lakes trail and parking lot is now open. Eightmile trail has a bridge washed out near the start; cross on a temporary log.

Due to lack of funds, these trails will not be cleared of downed logs this year: Jack Ridge 1557; all side trails off Ingalls Creek 1215; Van Epps 1594; Blackjack Ridge 1565; Leland Creek 1566; Lorraine Point 1568; and Icicle Ridge 1570 between 4th of July and Hatchery Creek.—Ranger, 8/13.

ENCHANTMENTS—By mid-May all the Enchantment overnight reservation permits had been reserved except for a few days in June and October. Snow-melt is about 4 to 6 weeks late.

Permits are required between 6/15 and 10/15. To reserve a permit call 800-452-5687. The reservation fee is \$7, by VISA or Mastercard. Checks are acceptable if the reservation is placed 21 days in advance of the trip.

25% of the daily quota will be saved for day-of-use and these permits will be available on a lottery system at the Leavenworth Ranger Station at 7:45am the day of your trip.—Ranger, 8/15.

CLE ELUM DISTRICT—509-674-4411. Jungle Creek road 9701 and Cole Creek road 41 are closed due to flood damage. Thorp Creek road 4312 and

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

French Cabin Creek road 4308 are now open to the trailheads.

Middle Fork Teanaway trail has major flood damage; not recommended for use.

Applications are being accepted to fill a volunteer position at the Teanaway Guard Station. If interested, call the Ranger Station.—Ranger, 8/15.

SKYKOMISH DISTRICT—360-677-2414. Deception Creek trail has four bridges out and many blowdowns. Road is washed out 2 miles before Lake Dorothy trailhead. Necklace Valley trail is great for first 5 miles.

NORTH BEND DISTRICT—206-888-1421. Middle Fork road 56 is open to end. Denny Creek trail bridge is out. Dingford Creek trail bridge is out.—Ranger, 8/15.

SOUTH CENTRAL



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Roads and trails snowfree.



SILVER PEAK (Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Lost Lk)

The Kenworth Engineering Hike Club's Thursday night hike had a turnout of five hikers. It was a warm afternoon, but not unbearable.

Hiking south on the PCT at Windy Pass was pleasant through old growth forest with occasional vistas to the east. The trail is generally in good condition except for a couple of stretches that have been surveyed and marked (for re-routing?).

The route leaves the PCT at about 2 miles. If you arrive at a small tarn on your left, at the base of Tinkham, you've missed the turn. Turn around and look on your left for a track. The snow has only just melted away and it was easy to spot the trail. As the undergrowth sprouts it gets more difficult to spot.

Within a very short distance is a wooden sign on a tree that says "TRAIL ABANDONED." The trail winds up the slope and gets easier to follow the higher you get. At a plateau is a "cross-road"—turn right for Silver Peak. The trail to the left takes you up Tinkham. Straight ahead takes you to Abiel Lake.

A slight loss in altitude and another

steep slope brings you to a second plateau. Looking straight ahead, north, is Silver Peak, 5605 feet. A trail to your left, west, takes you to Abiel. You lose a little more altitude before the trail starts to climb once again, zigzagging up the talus field. The spring flowers were absolutely superb in the alpine meadows above the talus.

The trail is easy to follow but gets a bit intimidating with exposure. The views from the summit are great. The return trip is just a matter of retracing your route. We took about 3 hours round trip from Windy Pass.

Windy Pass is found by taking Hyak/Gold Creek Exit 54 from I-90. Drive toward Hyak ski resort and watch for a gravel road on your left.

This will take you by the scenic "lagoons" to road 9070. Drive this road to its intersection with the PCT at Windy Pass.—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 7/25.



SILVER AND ABIEL PEAKS (Wenatchee Natl Forest; USGS Snoqualmie Pass)

During one of our August heatwave days, a small Mazama group climbed Abiel and Silver Peaks, south of Snoqualmie Pass, from Windy Pass and the Pacific Crest Trail.

The climber's trail from the PCT to the Tinkham-Abiel saddle is in excellent condition. Thanks go to the invisible people who have taken on the maintenance work, for the Forest Service has an ABANDONED TRAIL sign at its base.

We saw no other climbers, but did see three elk on the road, some goat hair near Silver's summit, and were driven from the summit by hordes of some fly-type insect swarming mightily, landing on everything vertical. Yuk!

We traversed Silver Peak from the south to north to cut off some doubling-back trail mileage, as we successfully had done several years ago. A trail from the summit descends west toward Lake Annette. We took it to where we could drop over a northwest-angled ridge, down the mountain's north face.

It had worked before; but this time we didn't easily locate a good route through shelf systems, which caused some scouting and back-tracking. The sun blazed and reflected from the rocks.

Ultimately, we contoured around Silver's nose through woods to the edge of the clearcut, finally to the PCT and out. Huckleberries were a treat, and so was the jug of lemonade in the car.

Next time I believe we'll just do the extra trail mileage to save time.—Vera Dafeo, Portland, 8/11.



NACHES PASS to CHINOOK PASS, PCT (Norse Pk Wilderness; USGS Blowout Mtn, Lester, Noble Knob, Norse Pk, White River Park)

Joan, Adnan and I left a logging road near Naches Pass on a warm Sunday afternoon. We entered forest and passed the old Naches Wagon road, then camped at Government Meadows.

We set up camp in the forest, but ate our dinner and breakfast on the front porch of the Ulrich Shelter, a well-built log cabin honoring Mike Ulrich, a Scouter and outdoorsman who helped build much of this section of the PCT. That night a bull elk tromped through our camp and meandered through the moonlit meadow.

The next morning we hiked through cool, shady forest until we reached Arch Rock, with a spring and a good established campsite. We decided to camp early and explore. A trail leads back around and up the hillside to a ridge that drops off in a huge, horse-shoe-shaped cliff. I collected mountain goat wool from tree branches along the edge, and we watched mountain goats in meadows below as they worked their way up.

The following day we hiked through meadows dotted with trees and fragrant with lupine and many other flowers—orange, white, yellow, purple, blue, red—all in full bloom.

In early afternoon we got to Big Crow Basin and found our first water source since the spring at Arch Rock. We camped here and were surrounded by elk all night.

We had heard that the next stretch of trail had no water until Sheep Lake, so Joan filtered six quarts of water into a bag which we shared carrying, just in case we needed to have a dry camp that next night. That day we were above treeline all day.

I climbed Norse Peak to explore, and I found a delightful campsite on the very top, surrounded on three sides by rock walls to break the wind.

We had our lunch at Bear Gap, where three other trails meet the PCT. On our way south from there, where the trail is on a rocky, steep slope, we came upon a horse party accident.

Joan, who was ahead, actually saw the man thrown from his horse over the hillside. His companions dismounted to assist him, and the five riderless horses panicked and ran helter-skelter north toward the unwary Adnan and me.

The horses stopped around a blind corner—perhaps because they heard us talking. Anyway, Joan and Adnan went ahead to give first aid and let the people use Joan's cellular phone to call

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

for someone to meet them at the Morse Creek trailhead, about a mile down from Bear Gap.

My job was to steady and calm the horses and to help bring them back to Bear Gap where they could be tied in the shade until ready to go. One horse threw a shoe and was injured.

When we had helped all we could, we set off again toward Sourdough Gap. We had lost a lot of time and camped at the one spot available near the trail about a mile north of Sourdough Gap. It was a dry camp, so we were glad we had carried the extra water.

Morning brought another sunny day, and an uneventful but pleasant hike through meadows to Sourdough Gap, down to Sheep Lake, and on to Chinook Pass. The magnificent view from Sourdough Gap is definitely worth a dayhike up from Chinook Pass if you ever get the chance. In fact, I recommend it to all of you.—Linda Bakkar, Lynnwood, 7/28-8/1.



GOBBLER'S KNOB (Mt Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier West)

—We had always wanted to hike to Gobbler's Knob, just off the Westside Road, but had never gotten around to it when the road was open.

After its closure 4 years ago due to a washout at Fish Creek, it seemed even less likely that we'd get there with small children. The road closure adds 3.7 miles each way to the otherwise 2.5 mile hike, making it 12.4 miles round-trip. We decided to try it anyway.

The hike up the road went surprisingly quickly. It's in good shape, except for the washout. It was one gently climbing mile from the road to Lake George, and then 1.5 steep miles to Gobbler's Knob.

The lookout is in great shape, and is still used during fire season. On the way back we stopped for lunch and a swim in Lake George. The water was warm on this very hot day. Trudging back down the road, we met a ranger in a truck, who gave us a ride the final 2 miles to our car.

He told us he was making preparations for a big service the next day to commemorate a Marine Corps plane that had crashed 50 years ago on the mountain.

The best part of the hike was the absolute solitude we had in this usually crowded National Park. We met an off-duty ranger at Lake George, and passed one other hiker on the way to Gobbler's Knob. Otherwise, we had the place to ourselves. Wonderful!

One negative—the adults in our party both experienced heat exhaustion.

Even though we swam and carried plenty of water, we didn't drink enough to compensate for our level of exertion. It was an awful way to end an otherwise great day.—The Wild Bunch, Marysville, 7/26.



BOUNDARY & UNICORN

(Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier East, Tatoosh Lks)—Party of five: four sets of bad knees, two pairs bifocals, several herniated discs and an anomaly—one individual with no apparent defects.

At Snow Lake, 4679 feet, no snow, visibility about 100 feet. Head up trail on vegetated island south of Unicorn Creek then drop into Unicorn Creek. Go off course briefly, too far to north before leader's compass bearing puts us on correct heading. Hit snow in gully at about 5300 feet, will be on snow from here to notch west of Unicorn.

From the little saddle west of Unicorn follow bottom edge of cliffs on snowfree south side of Unicorn to short rock scramble to ridgetop east of summit, about 6800 feet. Head southeasterly on ridge.

At 2:00 have lunch and scout ridge; find low point shown on map so finally know about where Boundary Peak is. Proceed southeasterly.

At 2:50, we find summit of Boundary Peak, 6720 feet, where it ought to be. As we head back one member of party (there is always one) suggests as long as we are in the vicinity, why not check out Unicorn?

At base of Unicorn, ascend southeast face. 4:50 on top, 6971 feet. (Elevations change with map revisions.) Visibility now increases to almost 200 feet. 5:15, off summit, proceed southeasterly on ridge beyond point where we ascended to loose talus, scree, sand slope and around base of cliffs to the notch west of Unicorn.

Begin series of glissades down Unicorn Creek valley; cease when "no glissades if no runout" rule kicks in. Finally below heavy fog and can see Snow Lake. Back at parking lot by 7:50pm; very heavy drizzle.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 7/21.



EUNICE LAKE & TOLMIE LOOKOUT (Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mowich Lk, Sunrise)

—Set up tent in Mowich Lake walk-in-no-fires-no-water camp.

Head to Eunice Lake, about a 2½ mile, 1½ hour hike. Trail to Eunice Lake is very good rock-free dirt tread with occasional pitches of steep washed-out rocky gullies. Nice flower display at meadows around lake.

I violate Park admonition against feeding animals, yield several pints of blood to voracious mosquitoes. Proceed another .9-mile and 45 minutes to Tolmie lookout on steep but fairly good trail. Lookout is badly deteriorated.

Have lunch and drop back to lake. Scramble talus slopes to north side of lake for image of Mount Rainier reflected in lake. Breeze caused by millions of mosquito wings breaks up reflection. Return to Mowich.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 7/31.



SPRAY PARK and beyond (Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mowich Lk)

—Start from trailhead camp at Mowich lake. This trail has a rolling grade, losing and regaining several hundred feet of elevation before the final ascent following Spray Falls.

Spray Falls is spectacular even though still in shadow.

I reach puncheon and beginning of meadows. Stockpiles of rocks, gravel and soil from here on for ongoing trail rehab. Panoply of wildflowers including uncommon white lupine right next to trail. Patchy snow, red cinders, dwarf lupine as I approach 6400-foot high point between Spray Park and the trail to Ipsut.

I drop to Marmot Creek over large snowfields and rock. Head north and east to 5600-foot meadow overlooking Seattle Park and Northern Crags. Have lunch and follow large ugly orange and red painted cairns back to high point.

Suncups make great steps in snowfields. Chill breeze here, clouds obscure Rainier. 3½ hours from high point to Mowich. Will rain tomorrow so break camp and head out. Construction delays on Highway 165 brief.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 8/1.



EAGLE & CHUTLA PEAKS (Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier West, Wahpenayo)

—Party of four proceeds up well built, good tread, moderate grade trail for scramble of Eagle Peak. The "built" trail ends abruptly soon after leaving welcomed shade of trees. Sharp switchback to left up rutted ditch with loose rock to dirt track through trees. Then up another rock-filled trench through a flowered and butterflied meadow to Eagle Peak Saddle and a sign: END OF MAINTAINED TRAIL. Someone has a sense of humor.

To left on boot track toward Eagle Peak. It's fairly easy to follow; go left where the heavily traveled track goes right. It is the more heavily traveled because everyone who goes that way has to come back so it gets twice the use. Then through trees along base of rock

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS


to switchback up and right onto a ledge. A giant step at the end of the ledge is the only difficult move on this scramble, especially hard to locate footholds on descent.

At summit of Eagle Peak, 5950 feet, at 11:35am; lunch. Return to saddle, and as long as we are here, why not Chutla? Head easterly on vague track that avoids any real rock scrambles. A new category of tree scramble is suggested.

The true summit follows a series of faux summits, a vegetated saddle, dirt sidehill and a very short rock scramble. At summit of Chutla, 6000 feet+, at 1:40pm. We are unanimous in feeling that this is the best view summit in the Tatoosh range.

Drop back to vegetated saddle and angle steeply downhill below rock on slick beargrass, heather meadow to intercept trail to Eagle Peak Saddle.

4:30pm back at Longmire. Leader Carla breaks out iced watermelon, receives standing ovation.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 7/27.

 **FOSS PEAK** and beyond (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier East, Packwood*)—From Snow Lake follow boot track through small trees on south side of Unicorn Creek to about 4750 feet. Then on to large shattered unstable rock. Stream is subsurface, heard but not seen.

Marmot guards entry to narrow section of valley at about 4850 feet. Back azimuth 50 degrees true. Stream surfaces as cascade around 5000 feet. Best route seems to be along left (south) edge of narrow valley, right up against rock bluffs.


Near 5600 feet the grade moderates and stream broadens. A shortcut to the left here goes over steep meadows to the notch west of Unicorn. I drop to stream bed and continue to ridge on continuous snowfields. Will probably be melted out by mid-September. Snow Lake to ridge top about 1 hour 45 minutes, mostly on wobbly rock. After lunch and photos take ridge northerly to 6524 foot Foss Peak.

From lunch to summit about ½ mile and one hour. Cross two faux summits enroute on a fairly obvious track. After time to admire view from summit, a very easy scramble, I drop off northwesterly over steep flowered meadows to north side of a small tarn at 6058 feet. Then westerly up talus and meadow on ridgetop toward The Castle.

I follow base of cliffs on south side of The Castle and Pinnacle to the end of the trail at Pinnacle/Plummer saddle. About 1.4 miles from Foss to the trail in

2 hours. Meet a group of Iowans there. Discuss components of flower field on steep meadows south of Pinnacle.

From saddle to Reflection Lakes a bit over a mile and 25 minutes, pass one white lupine, lots of blue. Reflection Lakes to Snow Lake trailhead 35 minutes for 1.7 miles. Surprisingly pleasant walk, mostly downhill and see a lot more than one sees driving that stretch.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 8/6.

 **EMERALD RIDGE** (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS Mt Rainier West*)—Forecast is for very warm so early start. Leave West Side road at closure 7am for 1½ hour hike to Round Pass. Check Tahoma Creek trail enroute and see enough evidence of use to decide to make it a loop trip and return on it.


Took Round Pass trail to South Puyallup trail, about 15 minutes, to avoid more road walking. Two major punchon bridge collapses can be bypassed quite easily and safely. The material for repair has been sitting on the trail for over two years.

On South Puyallup trail a little over an hour to Wonderland Trail. Admire the columnar basalts just below the South Puyallup camp. Trail from here up becomes much steeper and filled with loose rock. After an hour arrive at sharp switchback and viewpoint.

Trail improves from here to Emerald Ridge. An hour gets me to the high point on the trail and Emerald Ridge. Nice flowers on north face of ridge. Near noon so stop for lunch in shadow of small group of trees.

Around 1pm start down trail toward Tahoma Creek. Great views of Pyramid Peak and the Tahoma moraines. Sign at Tahoma Creek trail says NOT MAINTAINED—no deterrent; I have not been on a maintained trail all day. Also says NOT RECOMMENDED FOR USE; I agree. Trail gets pretty crummy in the lower reaches but no alternative if you want a loop trip.

About 3½ hours from Emerald Ridge back to car. Approximate miles—from road closure to Round Pass: 4; Round Pass trail: ½; South Puyallup trail: 1½; Wonderland to Emerald Ridge: 2; Emerald Ridge to road closure via Tahoma Creek trail: 5.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 8/13.

 **SUNRISE TRAILS** (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS Sunrise*)—Decided to escape lowland heat. Long delay of around 30 minutes due to construction on Highway 410.

Hike up to Glacier Basin, arriving 12:50. Open area beyond camp leads up moraines to snow. Wander among

glacier lilies, phlox, veronica, heather, hellebore, polonium, penstemons, lousewort, shaggy headed anemones.

Leave moraines around 2:15 and arrive trailhead at 4:35. This trail has a lot of embedded rock, mostly moderate grade with a few steep pitches. Plenty of water.


Next day leave Sunrise parking lot (6400 feet) for Fremont Lookout. Spectacular wildflower setting, many dwarf varieties in little clusters displayed against light gray rock. Meet skittish marmot halfway point; mosquitoes not at all shy.

Fremont Lookout is 7181 feet. Nice views, especially of Grand Park and peaks to west, Old Desolate. Leave mosquitoes and view for Dege Peak.


Back to Sunrise at 2:45. Both these trails are heavily traveled, dry, dusty with embedded rock. Except upper portion of Fremont trail; that's on talus.

Next day to Owyhigh lakes. This is a well constructed trail, wide dirt tread with a fir needle carpet. Last mile or so is nearly level. Hit open meadow with full array of wildflowers in prime condition. Mosquito attacks start; citronella-based repellent not very effective.

Start back, meet subscribers and Louise acquaintances Donna and Al (hope I got that right) on way to trailhead. Construction delays and slowdown for accident makes what should be a two hour trip last four.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 7/23-25.

 **CLOVER LAKE** (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park*)—My sister Linda and I spent two great days around Mount Rainier, staying at Silver Springs and hiking. We took the chair up to the top of Crystal Mountain and had a wonderful dinner in their warming hut.

The next day we hiked to Clover Lake. The trail begins on the road to Sunrise, right at the hairpin turn with a large parking lot. Though you can't see Rainier on this trail the series of lakes and flower meadows made every step a thing of beauty. The entire trail is 7 miles round trip, but anyone one of the lakes along the way makes for a nice lunch spot and a hike back. The flowers were in full bloom, few bugs and few people.—Mystery Hiker and Linda, Granite Falls, 8/14.

 **THREWAY PEAK / Peak** 6878 (*Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park*)—Of the peaks enclosing the Crystal Mountain Resort ski valley the most craggy is Threway Peak. Its summit pinnacle looks formidable from the west, but is

easily and safely gained from the east. A secondary pinnacle closely southwest looks like a roped climb from all sides.

Threeway is at the convergence of three valley rims—those of Silver Creek to the northeast, Morse Creek to the southeast and Crystal Lakes and Creek to the west.

It is indicated on maps only by the elevation 6796 feet, but is designated by name in Beckey's *Cascade Alpine Guide*. The Pacific Crest Trail traverses its southeast side at about 6100 feet as it travels between Sourdough Gap and Bear Gap.

Just east of Threeway are two cols in the ridgetop; these are about 100 feet apart, separated by a rocky knob. The key to an easy ascent is to head for the western col. This can be done from either the south or north.

South Approach: Drive Highway 410 to Chinook Pass. Park at the lots just east of the crest (5400 feet). Follow the PCT about 3.6 miles north past Sheep Lake, through Sourdough Gap (6400 feet) and down to directly below the desired col (6100 feet).

Climb steep meadowed talus to the col, which is guarded by a bit of scrub at the top (6400 feet). From the col the way ahead looks like a Class 3 scramble, but by traversing west on the heathery north side a few yards, ascending a short chute to the left, and barging up slightly to the right over simple rock (Class 2) and brush, one gains with ease the broad open ramp leading to the top.

North Approach: Take Highway 410 and road 7190 to Crystal Mountain Resort (4260 feet). Walk up Chair 4 (not too aesthetic) and through trees to Henskin Lake (5700 feet).

Alternatively, turn off road 7190 onto rough road 410; drive a little over 2 bouncy miles to a hairpin turn and park (4700 feet). Walk trail 1192 just over 2 miles to a junction. Go right .6-mile to Henskin Lake. From here, work up through trees and open areas to the base of the ridge (6100 feet). Climb steep meadow to the short chute just west of the col and proceed as above.

Once on the ramp, walk west, gaining another 300 feet. The top is guarded by a tangled pine and a 5-foot exposed horizontal clamber. You can survey a good part of our neck of the woods from here. Of course Mount Rainier is right there blocking your view of Mount Beljica, but this is the kind of sacrifice you have to make sometimes.

From the ski area the round trip is about 7.5 miles, the gain 2600 feet. By way of trail 1192 it's 8 miles in and back, 2100 feet up. From Chinook Pass walk 8 miles altogether, climbing a to-

tal of 2000 feet.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 7/28.

POINT 6560+ (Rainier Natl Park; USGS White River Park)—This little hillock on the rim between Morse Creek and Crystal Lakes lies between Threeway Peak (6796 feet) just northeast and Point 6640+ immediately south above Sourdough Gap.

The PCT traverses its southeast side at between 6100 and 6400 feet. Its southeast upper rim is steep rock, but all other sides are gentle and shrubby. Of little merit except for peak baggers (motto: I've never been on a top I didn't like), it still deserves at least a brief report, since every high point along the PCT from Chinook Pass to Snoqualmie Pass, a distance of some 69 miles, can be easily scrambled.

Drive Highway 410 to Chinook Pass. Park just east of the crest (5400 feet). Follow the PCT about 3 miles to Sourdough Gap (6400 feet). A few hundred feet past the Gap, take the unmarked Crystal Lakes trail left for another hundred feet or so.

Just before the trail crosses the crest, turn right onto a climbers' path. Follow this up talus and through shrub to the summit. Views here are limited by small trees, but the perspective of Threeway Peak is impressive.

We watched a mountain goat high on Threeway's main peak pondering its seemingly impossible perch. Don't do what we did: coming from Threeway, we clambered up this point's north ridge and encountered major brush.

The round trip to here from Chinook Pass is 6.5 miles with a total gain of only 1200 feet.—Mick Campbell, Puyallup, 7/28.

WHITE RIVER DISTRICT—360-825-6585. **Road 70** is CLOSED at milepost 6.9 for major repairs. **Highway 165** is now open south of Carbonado during daylight hours. Night closures are in effect from 8pm to midnight, and from 1:30am to 6:30am. Construction crews will be working on the bridge at night to keep it open during the daytime.

Corral Pass road 7174 is closed due to flood damage. The west entrance to **Clearwest Peak** is closed because of damage to the Carbon River bridges. Don't expect access any time soon.—Ranger, 8/20.

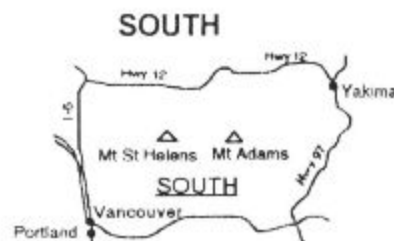
CAYUSE PASS—At 8am on Monday, September 9, crews will close Highway 123 over Cayuse Pass approximately 3 months earlier than usual.

The closure will allow work to begin

to repair a 600-foot damaged section of road.—Ranger, 8/20.

NACHES DISTRICT—509-653-2205. Repairs continue on damaged roads. Call the Ranger Station for current conditions.

Rattlesnake trail 1114 will be closed for about a year while funding to relocate the trail is acquired. The trail was completely destroyed for long stretches along the lower 5 miles.—Ranger, 8/20.



GENERAL CONDITIONS—Roads and trails snowfree.

GOAT ROCKS LOOP (Goat Rocks Wilderness; USGS Pinegrass Ridge, Old Snowy Mtn, Packwood Lk)—This trip makes a nice 4- or 5-day loop through the north part of the Goat Rocks. About 7 miles east of White Pass look for a sign that indicates Tieton Road intersecting on the right. This is road 12. Follow past Clear Lake and take road 1207 to its end at the North Fork Tieton River trailhead.

Our plan was to take trail 1118 to Tieton Pass, then the PCT to camp at either Lutz Lake or McCall Basin. We made much better time than I expected so we continued to what would have been our Day 2 camp about a mile east of Elk Pass. The views from here are simply beautiful.

Continuing to Elk Pass could have been a real challenge had it not been for the rock cairns that have been set up over the snow. One short section was a bit scary because of its steepness but the snow was soft enough to kick good footholds.

At Elk Pass we took Coyote Ridge trail 79 over the Packwood Saddle to Lost Lake, nearly 8 miles of waterless trail on a southwest facing ridge. **Carry water!** We studied our maps carefully so knew this trail would be dry and hot. Lots of camping at Lost Lake but the best places seem to be at the southwest side near the underground outlet.

Our third day was to take us to Lost Hat Lake, then on trail 76 to the Clear Fork trail 61 and up the Cowlitz River to where the trail crosses the river. But first let's talk about getting down the ridge to Lost Hat Lake from Lost Lake.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

From the old lookout site at 6359 feet you can clearly see Lost Hat Lake and around the snow see bits and pieces of trail, but no cairns. About half way down the ridge we discovered we were not on the right trail. Was it the Coal Creek trail or an elk trail? We back-tracked across 1/2-mile of snow to where we had good tread and got out the maps.

To make a long afternoon short, the trail is not where the maps indicate it should be. Beware of all the animal trails above Lost Hat Lake. They all end at a 50-foot cliff. We finally did get down with nothing more serious than scrapes, bruises and a broken rib.

100 Hikes states there is camping on trail 61 at Coyote Creek and Chimney Creek. The Coyote Creek crossing is totally washed away from last winter's storms. The cairns here got us through this mess. It is amazing the amount of destruction from such a small creek!

Luckily at Chimney Creek was a spot just flat enough for our tent and a well deserved night's rest.

Our fourth day was to the crossing of the Cowlitz on a precarious log, up to Tieton Pass and down trail 1118 to the trailhead.

If my figuring is correct this is a 43-mile loop of some lonesome hiking. We passed mostly dayhikers coming out on Sunday as we were going in and met only two other backpackers the four days we were on the trail.

There were numerous blowdowns along the way but none that were hard to get around. All the trails were in pretty good shape except for some rocks and roots between Lost Hat Lake and the Clear Fork trail. Bugs were surprisingly insignificant. Also, bring your camera for the stunning views of Old Snowy, Johnson, Rainier and others and peek-a-boo views of Saint Helens

and Adams.—Rod and Sean Goehner, Kent, 7/28-31.

TRUMAN TRAIL (*Saint Helens NVM; USGS Spirit Lk West*)—Took the Truman Trail 207 from Windy Ridge. Hiked across the pumice plain and up the spillover on the east side of Coldwater Ridge. Joined the Boundary Trail.

Views of Rainier, Adams and Hood. Gorgeous day as we looked up into crater. Dwarf lupine everywhere cradling seeds. Saw two tiny subalpine fir in the midst of the moonscape. The forest returns!—Barnstormer, Lacey, 8/11.

BLUE LAKE (*Indian Heaven Wilderness; USGS Lone Butte, Gifford Pk*)—When approaching the Thomas Lake trailhead from the north on road 65, be aware that the bridge is weakened and the road closed about 1 mile from road 30 and 2 miles short (north) of the trailhead.

Hiking along the road provides good views of Mount Saint Helens, but it will extend your trip to Blue Lake from 7 to 11 miles.—Bill Meyer, Portland, 8/10.

GIFF. PINCHOT NATL FOREST—360-750-5000. The Windy Ridge viewpoint on the east side of Saint Helens is open weekends only due to limited staffing. Road 99 to Bear Meadows is open daily.

Road 25, which has been closed, is now open. Several portions are under repair, making one-lane travel necessary at times.

These main roads are now open: 21, 2160, 24, 25, 30, 47, 52, 56, 64, 66, 80, 81, 8110, 82.

These roads remain closed: 2304, 26, 4109, 53, 54, 59, 60, 63, 68, 74, 8117, 8322, 86, 90, 93.

If a road doesn't show up on this list, it's because it's partially open/closed. Call for specifics.—Ranger, 8/2.

CALIFORNIA

SPOOKY MEADOWS TRAIL (*Ansel Adams Wilderness; USGS Mono Craters, Devils Postpile*)—To get to the Spooky Meadows trail you need to start at the Rush Creek trailhead. This is located next to the resort at Silver Lake, on the June Lake Loop. Go south on Highway 395, about 7 miles past Highway 120 (Tioga Pass) to Highway 158. This is the June Lake Loop. Follow this road about 7 miles to the trailhead at Silver Lake.

The Rush Creek trail climbs 2.2 miles to Agnew Lake. Just before the lake is the signed intersection with the



Ann Marshall crosses the Plains of Abraham on the Loowit Trail; Mount Saint Helens.

Lee McKee

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

Spooky Meadows trail. The sign says Clark Lake.

The Spooky Meadows trail has fallen into the Inyo National Forest list of "User Maintained" trails. The reason is that the gradient exceeds USFS standards in places. The policy is if the local ranger district spends any money on it, they must first bring it up to USFS standards. This would essentially mean building an entirely new trail in places. The Lee Vining Ranger District does not have this kind of money.

Though the gradient is somewhat steep in places, the trail is very well built, and gives access to a rather quiet part of the Ansel Adams Wilderness. It would be criminal to let this become another "abandoned" trail. We need more trails out there, not fewer.

Recently, we spent the better part of 3 days working on this great treasure clearing brush, removing rocks and downed trees, repairing and clearing out water bars and improving the tread. It has been great fun and immensely satisfying to see this neglected mountain path shine again.

At first, the trail rounds Agnew Lake, providing numerous pleasant campsites. It then starts to climb in earnest. Lower Spooky Meadows is at about 2 miles, upper Spooky Meadows at 2.5. At 3 miles is Clark Lake #2 and an intersection.

From here you have many choices. North is Donahue Pass and Yosemite, straight is the Minaret Range and the heart of the Ansel Adams Wilderness; south is the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin and Devils Postpile National Monument.

Views are continuous on both the Rush Creek segment and the Spooky Meadows trail. Granite peaks, deep blue lakes and huge snowfields make up the nearby scene. To the east is Mono Lake and the volcanic Mono Craters.

If you are planning a trip in the Eastern Sierra, you may want to consider using this restored resource to gain access to some of the sacred and enchanted temples of the Range of Light.—Fred and Wilma, Lee Vining, 6/27 & 7/6-8.



VIRGINIA LAKE to TWIN LAKES (Yosemite Natl Park;

USGS Matterhorn, Tuolumne Meadows)—Wilma's cousin Matt from Snohomish came down to spend his vacation with us and enjoy the wonders of the Eastern Sierra. We spent the first week going on some spectacular day hikes. By his second week, we were ready to go on a backpack trip.

We started our hike at the Virginia Lake trailhead. To get there, go about 12 miles north of Lee Vining on Highway 395 to Conway Summit. Here is the intersection with the signed paved road leading west 6 miles to the trailhead at Virginia Lake, 9700 feet. You will find a very nice campground and a small fishing resort here.

We finished our trip at Twin Lakes, 7200 feet. You get here by going about 24 miles north of Lee Vining to Bridgeport. At the west edge of town is the paved road leading southwest 12 miles to Twin Lakes. Here are several Forest Service campgrounds and a couple of fishing resorts. We left a vehicle at Mono Village resort, at the very end of

the Twin Lakes road.

Our 4-day trip covered about 38 miles and crossed four separate passes, all over 10,000 feet. Much of it traversed through subalpine areas and above timberline. Water is plentiful with numerous ponds, lakes and rills, as well as the creeks in the four major drainages we were in.

I do not think the scenery can get much better than what this trip has to offer. The beginning part of the trip passes through rugged metamorphic terrain. Here the peaks and mountains are of red and brown hues. By the second day, we were in granite country.

At the heart of our trip we climbed over 10,540-foot Burro Pass below the beetling crags of Matterhorn and Finger Peaks, and the sky-piercing spires and needles of the famed Sawtooth Ridge. The subalpine areas on both sides of this pass, with their dazzling flower displays, enchanting waterfalls and staggering mountain scenery, offered some of the nicest campsites we have ever seen.

We started and ended our hike in the Hoover Wilderness. The rest of the trip was in Yosemite National Park's remote and wild north country. Here, the trails are not well maintained, if at all. And don't expect to see the crowds Yosemite is notorious for. We saw very few people the entire trip, until we got within a few miles of the Twin Lakes trailhead.

A remote and wild country, with some of the best scenery that we have ever experienced. That just doesn't say enough.—Fred and Wilma, Lee Vining, 8/6-9.

BULLETIN BOARD

Notices on this Bulletin Board are free to subscribers and may be "posted" for up to three months. You may list your used equipment for sale, post lost-and-found announcements, locate partners for trips, or other non-commercial items. Commercial advertisers are welcome to contact the Pack & Paddle office for ad rates.

FOUND—Adjustable walking stick at Kachess Ridge trail. To claim, call Debbie, 206-881-5443.

FOUND—Hiking boots, complete with socks, at the Kachess Ridge/Silver Creek trailhead. Would really like to get them back to their owner. Call 206-363-6978 (Seattle) to identify.

FOUND—Front cover for Pioneer car stereo/cd player, at Tubal Cain trail-

head. To claim, call Scott and Louise, 360-479-2196, and describe.

FOR SALE—Sierra Designs tent, Stretch Dome. 3 to 4 person, 4 season. 1994 model with extended vestibule. Used only 10 nights. Call 360-895-3275 (Port Orchard).

FOR SALE—Ice Nine Gore-tex pants size small, color blue, full side zips, taped seams, rear and knee patches. \$50.

Vasque women's Sundowner boots, size 8, used but good condition. Gore-tex liner, all leather. \$50.

Phone 206-272-8135 (Tacoma).

FOR RENT by the week—Orcas Island waterfront cabin. Secluded area. Access

to ½-mile of beach. Wildlife viewing, hiking; fishing; photography. Available May-Oct. Write 1819 Hickox Road, Mount Vernon WA 98273 for complete information; SASE appreciated.

INTERESTED IN HIGH LAKE FISHING? Washington State Hi-Lakers club meets third Wednesday of each month at Mercerview Community Center, 7:30pm. For information, call George Bucher, 206-821-5752 (Kirkland).

OSAT—A clean and sober climbing and mountaineering club. 206-236-9674.

DAVE PARENT

Enchantment Lakes

I hadn't visited this area since 1974 so I got a permit, took five older boys from Troop 14, and headed over Stevens Pass.

Enchantment permits under the new phone system (800-452-5687) are difficult to obtain. By the time I got through on the phone the first day of permit application it was 1pm and there were only two dates left, mid-June and July 23. I chose the latter, hoping that the snow would be mostly melted by then.

Day 1. Moans and groans from all passengers as we took the 4:40am ferry from Whidbey Island to Mukilteo, drove to Icicle Creek and set up a shuttle from Snow Lakes trailhead to Colchuck Lake trailhead. Began hiking at 8am up through the ponderosa pines, through the cool cedar groves near Snow Creek Wall and up the hill to lunch at Nada Lake.

Continued to Snow Lakes and set up a well-deserved camp near the dike between the lakes. Mosquitoes probably at their worst but they at least went to bed at a reasonable hour.

Day 2. Arose at about 6am to get the climb up to the Enchantment Basin out of the way before it got too hot. The route is well-marked with cairns. Arrived at Lake Viviane about midmorning.

This lake had a few icebergs in it (of course, this didn't deter one of the young men from swimming) and the other Lower Enchantments were about 90% snow covered. Good swimming here too, I was informed by the hardy lads.

Made camp between the end of Rune Lake and Prusik Pass. Took an afternoon stroll up the pass and to the base of Prusik

Peak. Shield and Earle lakes and their basins were entirely snowfree.

Mosquitos were very bad and, despite frost that night, never went to bed. Mountain goats patrolled the basin all night, looking for salty human urination sites. (Please go on rocks in mountain goat country!)

Day 3. Another brilliant hot, cloudless day. Numerous four-inch mustelid tracks in the snow all around camp. Martens?

Ascended to the snow-covered Upper Enchantment basin. The gleaming snow slope of Little Annapurna was irresistible so we dropped our packs and kick-

ed steps about 1000 feet to the summit.

The view was outstanding—Rainier, Baker, Adams and Glacier Peak. The Goat Rocks and the Cascade Backbone. The farms of the Columbia Basin. Close at hand were the fantastic black lichen-encrusted pinnacles of the Flagpole and Nightmare Needles.

Ran down the mountain taking giant steps (wish I'd had skis) in about 10 minutes, shouldered the packs and continued to Asgaard Pass. The young men descended immediately, while we two leaders basked in the sunlight, views, cool breezes and mosquito-less air, dreading the descent to follow.

I won't enter into the debate over whether it is more agonizing to ascend or descend Asgaard Pass. I will only recommend that you get a very early start so you complete it in the cool of the day. We made it down in about two hours.

Made camp near the small tarn just west of Colchuck Lake and had a refreshing swim. Watched sunset, alpenglow and moonrise over Dragontail.

Day 4. Followed the trail out to the car at the trailhead. Good thing we were traveling at a fast clip downhill because the hordes of biting black flies dined on us whenever we slowed down or stopped.

Dave Parent, of Free-land, operates the Useless Bay Animal Clinic.



Little Annapurna, Enchantment Lakes.

MARTIN MESSING

The Mists Of Time and Foggy Memories

—A LABOR DAY TRIP, 1958—

Sometimes when my knees are acting up, my mind drifts back to events that occurred in the distant past. One such incident was a trip that took place Labor Day weekend of 1958.

Being a 1954 transplant from the Midwest, with an interest in the outdoors and fishing, I hung out with a local club devoted to trout stocking and fishing the high mountain lakes. I fell in with a group within the club that generally made a trip on Labor Day weekend to a remote area to survey and fish seldom-visited lakes. At this time most everybody stopped hiking before Labor Day and it was rarely we encountered other people.

On this particular Labor Day weekend the goal was Boulder Lake, drained by Tenas Creek in Skagit County. Cliff, Clayton, Milt and I made up the group. We drove up in Milt's car after work Friday and stayed the night at Buck Creek campground.

Everybody on the trip was more experienced than I, and they decided we would take the trail to Huckleberry Mountain Lookout, then follow the ridge to the lake. Of course this was before the logging road went up Tenas Creek.

After hiking several miles we came up to two heavily-laden men. They seemed to have everything, including a

cast iron skillet. We learned they were school teachers and had been making a Labor Day fishing trip to Boulder Lake for several years. Our group went on to the Lookout and while we were eating lunch, the teachers caught up. The weather was changing and we took shelter in the empty building until a heavy shower passed. The teachers were familiar with the ridge route and we decided to all stay together.

On reaching Boulder Lake, we set up camp on a smooth, grassy bench. While the rest cooked something to eat on a campfire, Milt went down to the lake. Later as we were setting up a tarp, so we could all sleep in a row behind the campfire, Milt returned carrying a 24-inch, five pound rainbow trout. We were all soon were in our sleeping bags, well satisfied we had picked such a level soft spot.

Some hours later we woke to a rumble and we could see sparks, flashes of light and smell brimstone. As it was pitch black we couldn't tell exactly where this was all taking place. We were in a safe place, but at the time it was unsettling.

The next morning Cliff went down to Boulder Lake to fish. By the time I came down he had caught a nice 17-inch rainbow. We could see where the

rock avalanche had started—in the cliffs on the north-east side of the lake—and carried all the way to the water. I was able to catch three 13½-inch cutthroats.

Later that day everybody went up on the glacier-

scoured slope behind Boulder and Pear Lakes, using the regular route above Pear Lake. Cliff went over the pass and looked at Crater Lake. Milt went down and fished Toketle Lake without luck. Kawkawak Lake was frozen.

After we returned to camp it was soon dark. Everybody settled into their sleeping bags. A couple from our group played cards with the teachers, by the light of a candle inside a can. About midnight everyone was asleep. Around 1am the wind came up suddenly, embers from the fire flying all over and the plastic tarp flapping in the gale.

Everybody got up to secure the tarp, just in time as it started to rain heavily. As water collected under our sleeping bags, it became apparent why the area we chose was so smooth and grassy. I was the only one with an air mattress; everybody else was lying in water.

Near 3am one of the teachers jumped up wearing only his boxer shorts saying, "I can't take it—we've got to have a fire!" He tried to start a fire in the rain and sodden ashes, using paper kitchen towels. It was some time before the others were able to talk him into returning to his soaked sleeping bag.

Clayton spoke up, "When it gets light we've got to pack up and leave, not even take time to eat—it's a matter of survival!"

When there was a glimmer of light, I got up and dressed. I had scarcely risen when Milt and Clayton came from right and left and took possession of the only dry sleeping bag. By this time the rain had quit and I was able to get a good fire going. It was only at 8am that anyone else would get up.

Everybody fixed and ate breakfast. Then we packed up and started back up the fog-shrouded ridge.

Every other event that took place on this trip is lost in the mists of time and foggy memories. △

Martin Messing, of Edmonds, was assisted in this reminiscence by Pepper Cat.



Boulder Lake from Huckleberry Mountain.

Martin Messing

CHARLIE HICKENBOTTOM

Chelan Summit Trail

—HIGH COUNTRY AND FLOWERS—

The thought to travel this route first occurred in 1978, while on a Tiger Mountain Trail work party. The work crew on that day included Bill Longwell, Gary Hickenbottom, and Kathy Boland.

Bill Longwell, a veteran backpacker and legendary trail builder, was my 9th grade core teacher. Gary and Kathy, my brother and sister-in-law, had done an extended backpacking trip the previous summer through the Pasayten Wilderness and south to Glacier Peak.

While discussing other long hiking routes, Bill mentioned the Chelan Summit Trail as a superb hiking opportunity. He noted the earlier opening for hiking and earlier show of wildflowers characteristic of the dryer eastern side of the Cascades. I was also intrigued by the approach and exit which allowed the hike to end at an elevation significantly lower than the starting point.

The fact that the trip occurred this year, 1996, 18 years after I first learned about it, was a twist of fate. My friend Janet Stanek and I were planning a vacation around the first of August to hike a long section of the PCT north of Stevens Pass.

When her vacation request was unexpectedly turned down by her employer, she scrambled to juggle her work schedule into a vacation by requesting other employees to take shifts in her absence. For a few weeks, the number of total vacation days available gradually increased, as well as the likelihood that the days would also be consecutive.

The fact that the days would be in the middle of July instead of early August dictated shifting to a trip other than the PCT for more ideal hiking conditions. The earlier snowfree hiking sea-

son of the eastern Cascades meant the Chelan Summit Trail would probably be in prime condition.

Transportation plans, an important piece in the trip planning puzzle, were greatly simplified now that I was established in Wenatchee. Tom Farmer, friend and fellow teacher, lived in Chelan and was available to help. The ideal logistics would place Janet and me at 6500 feet elevation at the beginning of the Summer Blossom trail, 38 miles from Chelan, but would leave our vehicle in Chelan.

By hiking the Summer Blossom and then the Chelan Summit Trail for its entire length, we could finish the 38-mile hike at the opposite end of the lake at Stehekin at an elevation of only 1100

feet. The daily boat from Stehekin to Chelan and a 1.5-mile jog would return me to my vehicle at Tom's place.

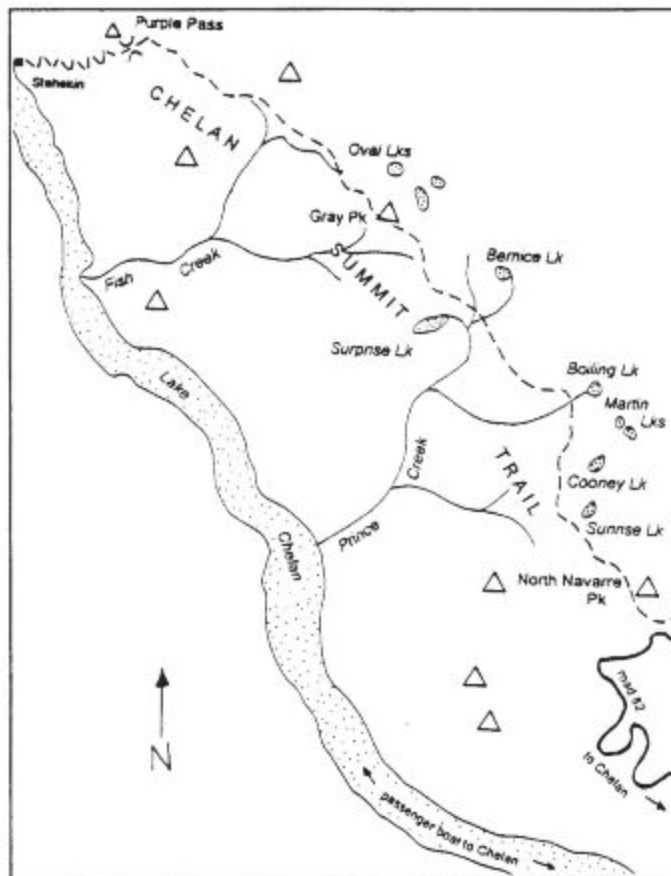
On July 16, Tom and friend Amy did the first 2.5 miles with us up to the high shoulder of North Navarre Peak. From here we walked five minutes or so up to the summit. The vast views of Lake Chelan, the Chelan Mountains, and Sawtooth Ridge were spectacular. The view of the trail ahead looked like a thin brown line through green meadows which stretched for miles.

Twice during the trip the route drops down to about 5500 feet to meet feeder trails coming up from Lake Chelan by way of Prince Creek and Fish Creek. Until the final drop from Purple Pass to Stehekin, the route stays at or above about 6400 feet elevation the rest of the time. Never in my years of hiking have I walked through so many miles of flowers on any other trail.

While the trail does stay high most of the time, it is hardly ever level. About 8500 feet of elevation is gained and lost before the final 6000-foot plunge down to Stehekin. The grade of the trail is suitable for pack stock, so the switchbacks help over the eight high passes which must be crossed.

The first 10 miles from the south are open to motor biking. A key pass at the 6-mile point was still snowed in on its north side, so this effectively blocked motors from the south. The route over Horsehead Pass from the Twisp side also had snow blocking part of the trail.

We felt fortunate to have a very quiet trip for the whole week, although we did have an unusual noisy interlude. Twice over a fifteen minute period, a



continued page 26

ANN MARSHALL

REI'S NEW STORE

—THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'—

I'm not old enough to remember the very first REI store—the one on a shelf in a garage—but I do remember the one upstairs at 7th and Pike in Seattle, where the Convention Center now stands.

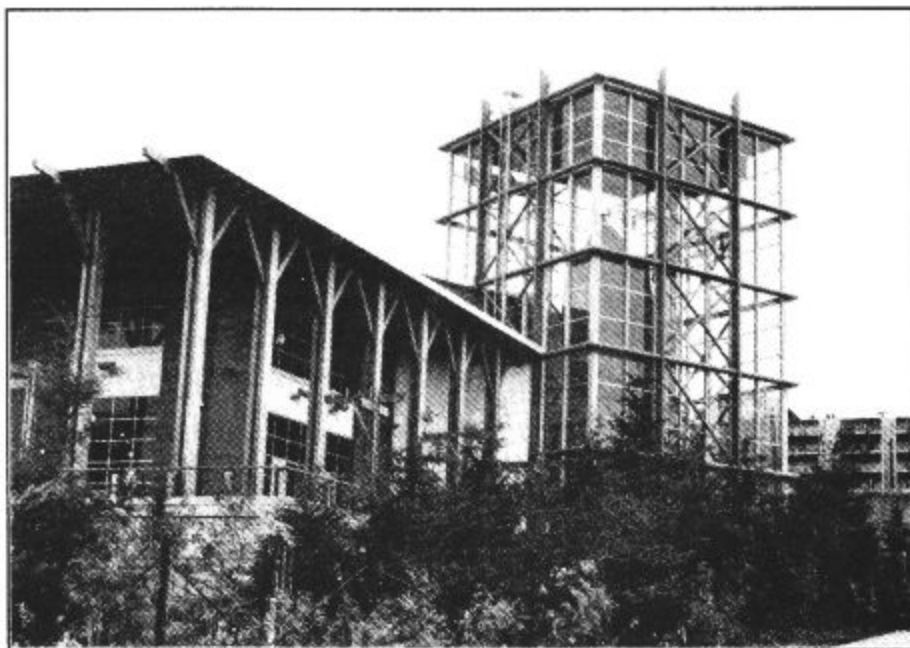
The co-op, as we called it then (and some of us still do), housed a wonderful assortment of stuff, stored in bins and shelves. I accompanied my parents there many times as a kid in the '50s—lots of army surplus and state-of-the-art equipment imported from Europe: heavy wool knickers, wood-shafted ice axes, crampons, stoves, beautiful wool sweaters, heavy nailed boots.

And yes, Jim Whittaker was nearly always behind the counter, ready to answer questions and ring up sales.

In the '60s the co-op moved to its huge Capitol Hill quarters at 11th and Pike. Of the 46 stores now in the REI stable, none has more character than the Capitol Hill building, with its exposed pipes, cavernous ceilings, and wood floor as uneven as a medieval courtyard.

But say goodbye forever to that old store. On September 11, it will close, and on the 13th the doors will open to the new REI.

In the works for the last three years, the new store is located south of the Mercer Street ramp to I-5, and is vis-



Ann Marshall

A view of the new REI building from the corner of Yale and John; the glass-encased climbing tower can be seen from I-5.

ible from the freeway. The building site covers just over 2 acres; only about half that space is building—the rest is open, either landscaped or with trails.

The open space includes a pond and waterfall fed by recirculating rainwater. Watch out for mountain bikes, because a 470-foot outdoor test track also runs through the courtyard!

An underground parking garage will delight those of us who bring cars into the city and used to groan in frustration at the lack of parking on Capitol Hill. The new garage can hold over 500 cars, and includes a high clearance bay for those bringing in skis, bicycles or boats on racks.

Once inside the store, I'm sure your mind will boggle, as mine did on a recent tour, at the size, scope and design of the new facility. I was almost prepared to dislike the new building. After all, wasn't the old one good enough?

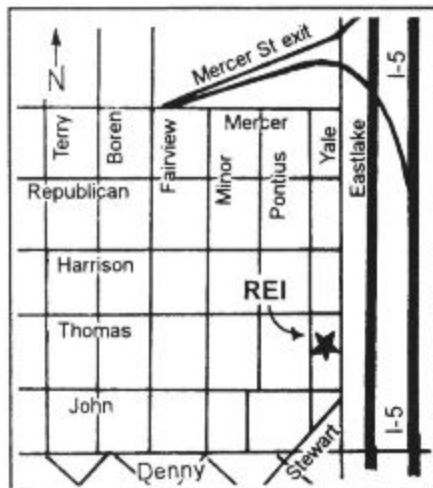
REI spokesman Barry Devenny can

tick off a list of "things that were wrong" with the old store, starting with the parking I already mentioned, and continuing with many examples of suggestions from REI members on how to improve services.

OPENS: Friday, September 13, at 7am (expect crowds!).
ADDRESS: 222 Yale Avenue N, Seattle

PARKING: Garage entrance is on Yale Avenue North.

BUS: Take any tunnel bus to Convention Place Station and walk north half a dozen blocks; or take a 25 bus to Eastlake Avenue and get off at Thomas or John Streets.



The co-op wants to provide better access and better services to members, and the old building and location just weren't sufficient for all the improvements. "No one wanted to leave the old store," acknowledges Barry, "but REI had outgrown it; the improvements and the hands-on demonstrations that members asked for just couldn't be done in that space."

The most obvious structure is the climbing tower, 65 feet high and enclosed in glass for spectacular "summit views" of the surrounding territory. It is covered with 1000 modular holds for cracks, overhangs and faces. Programmed lighting will simulate the sun's path (didn't I say this was mind-boggling?).

(The "first ascent" of the pinnacle will occur on September 12, at an invitation-only open house. The lucky climber will bid for the honor at an auction to benefit the Access Fund.)

A water-filter test area lets you try different brands of filters. A stove demonstration area is available for staff to show you how stoves work. A boot-test walkway gives you the chance to get a feel for those boots. And one of my favorites—a rain booth lets you compare rain gear where it's really wet!

There's a place for your kids to play (supervised by you), a cafe for refreshments and a real meeting room for seminars and slide shows—no more crowding into a corner of the basement.

The new store is designed with some



Waterfall near the main entrance.

features that will give it its own character. At the threshold, a block of the creosote-soaked wood floor from the old building greets members as they enter. Ramps, stairways, nooks and crannies are also influences from the old store.

Countertops are made from soybeans and newspaper. Exposed ducts and cables retain the warehouse atmosphere while expanses of glass bring in natural light. The concrete used for flooring contains recycled material. The huge

pieces of stone were found in an abandoned quarry; no new quarrying was done to provide them. Some of the interior decorations were made from materials found on the site before construction started.

The building is based on a passive-solar heating system, which means, among other things, that it will have a greater temperature range than the average department store.

All this recycled, energy-efficient stuff is great, but can we still walk in and buy white gas, sunscreen and mint cake? Absolutely. As soon as you walk through the main doors you'll see the familiar racks of outdoor staples.

One hundred seventy folks from the sales staff of the Capitol Hill store will be working here, as well as sixty additional people. If you don't see what you want, ask.

I came away from my tour feeling very pleased with the building. It is an impressive structure but not glitzy; there isn't a bit of chrome in it. It's a solid backpackers' building that should please the co-op membership.

△

Ann Marshall, of Port Orchard, is the editor of Pack & Paddle.

Chelan Summit Trail

continued from page 24

helicopter circled into the headwaters of the Middle Fork Prince Creek and apparently landed once. On its second trip, it carried a huge unknown load, dangled below by a cable from its belly.

Opportunities for camping come frequently at creek crossings and trail junctions. Many side trips and loop opportunities exist which take the hiker to mountain tops, along ridges, and to basin lakes. Most of the ridge crossings on the trail have excellent dry camps if you are willing to carry water or melt snow when available.

The 100 Hikes series warns of trampled meadows due to sheep grazing. We were also fortunate that this

year wasn't a grazing year according to permit. It was hard to imagine the sight and smell of a large flock. We treated all our drinking water. (To avoid grazing animals, hike this trail on *even* years.)

There were other highlights in addition to the flowers. Two ridge camps and another on the summit of Boulder Butte provided a feast of views during early morning and late evening glows.

A climb of Gray Peak soon after a storm provided some spark after too much down time waiting for the weather to improve. We will not soon forget our close-up viewing of a large brown bear foraging in a meadow. The ratio of deer sightings to human sightings was favorable. The low use of the trail surprised us. Perhaps the area is busier in August.

Backpackers wanting high vistas and flower fields during a vacation trip should put the Chelan Summit Trail on their "must-do" list. It's a trip not to be missed.

The USGS quads are South Navarre Peak, Martin Peak, Prince Creek, Oval Peak, Sun Mountain and Stehakin.

△

Charlie Hickenbottom, of Wenatchee, is a teacher who spends his free time hiking, climbing, skiing and bicycling.

Cougar Fires

A tribute to Robert R. ("Cougar Bob") Marriott

Only an extra special sire
 Can build a proper Cougar Fire.
 It has to be an expert blaze
 Whose kicks of flame delight, amaze
 Small boys. The boys aren't really much afraid
 But like to think of cougars on parade
 In hungry circles round the camp.
 The heat, the glare, make tawny cats decamp—
 But not too far. They sit among the trees
 And think and stare: "What mortals these
 Who tame the red death of the hills,
 Use it to ward off nightly chills,
 Keep marauders of the dark at bay,
 And sleep in safety till the day?"

In the woods, bright iridescent coals
 Reflect baffled, restless cougar souls.

At dawn in camp, the last ember cools and dies.
 The boys dream vividly of cougar eyes.

Long years have passed. The boys, their manhood won,
 Are building fires with and for their sons.
 It's not the same—
 Something's missing from the flame.
 "How build a proper Cougar Fire?" they often ask.
 "Who is equal to the magic task?"

They smile into each other's eyes and nod:
 "Just one! It's Dad, ole Cougar Bob!"

—Ruby El Hult

Note—"Cougar Bob" Marriott, of Port Townsend, has traveled the Olympic Mountains for over 70 years. He started as a Boy Scout hiking out of Camp Parsons when he was 13. He will be 86 next month, and still makes a yearly trip into the mountains with sons and grandsons, and frequently with his hiking partner Burdette Redding.

The "Cougar Bob" nickname is not applied, in this case, because of an occasion when a cougar was killed, but rather because of Bob's cozy campfires with his children, and his stories about how the campfires keep cougars away.

Bob is a longtime reader of *Pack & Paddle*. Some of his Olympic treks appear in the article "On Herb Crisler's Trail," by Burdette Redding, in the December 1994 issue.

DEBORAH RIEHL

RESCUE EPICS

—FROM THE ARCHIVES: AN AVALANCHE FROM 1976—

"Small World Syndrome" prompts another delving into the archives. A dinner party at a radio friend's house revealed that his son and I had been on a mission together 20 years ago.

On March 27, 1976, three men set out to snowshoe up Silver Peak. They walked up Annette Creek and ascended the north ridge. Near the summit "Ray" pulled ahead of the other two. "Carl" and "Ole" crossed the false summit and approached the notch north of the summit. To their horror, Carl and Ole discovered Ray's tracks ended at the notch.

The cornice at the notch had broken off, dropped into the northeast bowl, and triggered an avalanche.

Carl and Ole had no gear with them to descend into the bowl to look for Ray. They retreated as rapidly as possible and notified Ken White, then Snoqualmie Pass Snow Ranger, at 4pm.

Ken notified the King County Police and put together a rapid response team of climbers in the area, including Seattle Mountain Rescue member "Clay."

They tried to ascend Annette Creek that night in deteriorating weather. At 3800 feet they bivouacked. Intensifying bad weather forced a retreat at mid-morning.

A six-person SMR team was inserted by snowcat from Ski Acres the following day at first light. They took Ole with them to locate the last-seen point.

The snowcat made it within a mile of Nordic Pass. The team snowshoed in through Olallie Meadows to the bowl. They did a quick surface search of the avalanche. The search party then ascended the ridge to near the notch but retreated in the face of darkness and even worsening weather and increasing avalanche danger. The avalanche margins were becoming indistinct in the 12" to 18" of new snow that had fallen.

During the night a snowcat road was packed from Hyak to just below Olallie Meadows.

Snowmobiles transported in SMR members, Alpentel pro patrollers, search dogs and handlers, SPART members and Snow Rangers. The Snow

Rangers and pro patrollers did avalanche control with explosives. Next the dogs searched the avalanche and came up with two possible areas. Probing of those areas began at 2:30pm.

It was grueling work in the jumbled avalanche debris. We would probe, then push, pull and drag each other up another foot, then probe again. A helicopter flew over us but couldn't see us on the ground.

We got only about a sixth of the slide probed before darkness forced another retreat.

I was on randonee skis and in charge of leading out a mixed group of skiers and snowshoers. What a mess with our varying traveling speeds! But the worst was when the old five-watt "lunch box" radio in my pack fell out and I was stopped abruptly when I hit the end of my microphone-cord "leash."

In the once-again deteriorating weather and darkness we got suckered into the Annette Creek drainage and at least one team continued to the freeway, being too tired to turn around and climb back out. We weren't too far into it when we realized we'd gone astray and we regained the snowcat road to proceed out to Hyak. Back at the pass we were warmed and fed by the Red Cross.

On Tuesday things got an earlier start as the weather finally relented. ESAR was brought in to help and

SPART again responded with a large number of Ski Patrol personnel. Other Mountain Rescue groups from around the state sent reinforcements.

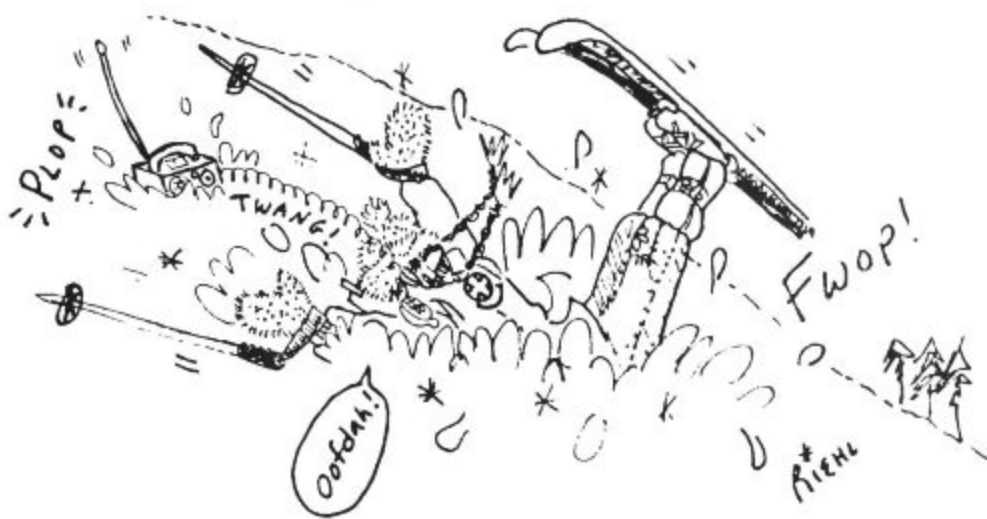
The day's first Mountain Rescue team was towed in at 3:30am. They had combed the summit, notch and face below the notch by 8:30am. The snowmobiles were busy meanwhile hauling in the rest of the search teams. At mid-morning the probe lines were re-established. Improved visibility finally made helicopter searching feasible.

In the early afternoon the find was made by the probe line, in one of the areas indicated by the dogs. Ray's body was at the 5000-foot level, 800 feet below the notch, buried under 6 feet of snow. A Huey helicopter flew Ray's body and all rescuers out.

This was an early, large mission involving multiple volunteer SAR units, the military, the Forest Service and two county police agencies.

The most daunting aspect of this mission wasn't the interagency coordination, however; it was the primal battle with weather, terrain and unstable snow.

Deborah Riehl, of North Creek, is a member of Seattle Mountain Rescue and Ski Patrol Rescue Team.



PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

JOHN THOMAS—*Pack & Paddle* reader John Thomas died in mid-August of cancer. He was 51.

John was born and raised east of the Mississippi and moved to Seattle in 1961. He co-founded *Fishing Holes* magazine in the '60s and was a frequent contributor to *Signpost* in its early years.

About 1982 he moved to White Salmon where he was director of marketing for Luhr Jensen. His wife Kathy and daughter Janette live in White Salmon.

John loved to fish, especially in high mountain lakes. He volunteered his time to many fishing groups and wrote a chapter on fresh water fishing for a UW textbook.

Donations in his name may be sent to White Salmon River Steelheaders, c/o Gardner Funeral Home, PO Box 390, White Salmon WA 98672.

CHARITY CLIMB—John Roskelley will lead a charity climb of Liberty Bell this fall. Roskelley and other well known mountaineers (possibly including Chris Kopczyński, Jim Wickwire and Greg Child) will guide fifteen people up the sheer rock face of the mountain September 22 as part of a mountaineering weekend planned by the Friends of Washington Pass. The minimum donation for participants is \$300.

The public is invited to watch and learn from skilled climbers Saturday morning, September 21, at the new climbing wall at the Mazama Mountaineering building in Mazama.

Saturday afternoon guides will teach people to rappel from the Washington Pass Overlook cliff (cost: \$30).

Saturday evening will be an open house at Mazama Mountaineering. All funds raised will go toward a small visitor center dedicated to mountaineering at Washington Pass.

For more information call and leave a message at 509-996-2640 or 509-996-2219.

HIGH RESCUES—Thought your readers might like to know that the Whidbey search-and-rescue was saved from budget cuts because they have the only helicopter capable of doing high mountain rescues.

I found this out when I hiked back from Three Fingers with a fly-guy station at Whidbey NAS. I had written our

Washington state senators to save it (hopefully others had also). Anyway, it's "safe" to break a leg up high.—

David MacFarlane, Lake Stevens.

FAMILY CHIPS IN—For almost 40 years the Jolly family has held a yearly reunion at Swauk campground. This year, the Forest Service didn't open the campground because of winter damage and limited funds. When family members found out, they pitched in to haul debris, clear roads, cut down trees, and repair a bathroom.

Because of their work the Forest Service was able to open the campground to everyone.

According to family spokesman Chuck Jolly of Everett, the family is so spread out that members rarely see each other outside the reunion. Moving to a different location, he said, would probably be the beginning of the end of their annual gathering.

TIETON MEADOWS—The Naches District is analyzing the Conrad Meadows area to determine how they can improve recreational opportunities, minimize conflicts among user groups and reduce impacts to meadows. The analysis has been funded by a grant from the state Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation.

The review was initiated by a request to provide a public toilet facility at Conrad Meadows. The increasing amount of unmanaged human waste, especially at the camping area, prompted this concern. The meadows consist of intermingled public and private lands and lie adjacent to the Goat Rocks Wilderness. The primary camping and horse staging area, the informal parking area and the trailhead are all on private land.

A proposal has been made to develop a trailhead and possible camping area on Forest Service land about 1/2-mile from the current area. At the trailhead a gravelled entrance road would be constructed with a parking area for up to ten vehicles with horse trailers.

Concerns or ideas about this project can be addressed to **District Ranger Jim Pena, Naches Ranger Station, 10061 Highway 12, Naches WA 98937 (509-653-2205).**

MOUNTAIN BIKE FESTIVAL—October 4, 5 and 6 is a good time to stay

out of the Methow Valley if you have an aversion to mountain bikes.

There will be mountain bikes on the streets of Winthrop, mountain bikes at Sun Mountain, and more on selected trails around the area.

Of course, you might want to go and join in. For more information, contact **MVSTA, PO Box 147, Winthrop WA 98862 (509-996-3287).**

SEATTLE FABRICS—The store got an extension from the building's owner and is still doing business at 3876 Bridge Way North, Seattle.

The move to the new location is planned now for some time in September. We'll let you know when the new store is open, or you can call Seattle Fabrics at 206-632-6022.

KAYAK SYMPOSIUM—The West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium will be September 20-22 in Port Townsend. It is a great opportunity to learn new skills, get information for trips, and try boats of many types.

For information, call 206-451-3044.

CHARTER—The former UW research vessel *Catalyst* is now available for charter from Puget Sound to Anchorage. The 74-foot vessel, built in 1932, carries groups of 10 to 12 people and kayaks, serving as a mobile base camp.

Special rates are available for groups of four or more people signing up from the same organization. For information call Pacific Catalyst, 360-385-2793.—*from "The North Sounder."*

DARRINGTON PROJECTS—Several projects are planned for '97 in the Darrington District.

The Sunrise Mine road will have new culverts and a retaining wall. The Sloan Creek road will have new culverts, some revegetation and storm-proofing to render the road drivable to its end.

The Elliott Creek trail will be relocated for about 1000 feet where it goes over a blue clay slide. The Weden Creek trail will get some drainage structures to reduce erosion into Weden Creek.

If you have comments about any of these projects, contact **Carol Gladsjo, Darrington Ranger Station, 1405 Emmens St, Darrington WA 98241 (360-436-1155).**

REST STOP

EQUIPMENT, RECIPES, TIPS

HEPATITIS A—Backpackers may be interested to know that immunization against Hepatitis A is now available.

Hepatitis A is a nasty little virus that does a number on your liver. It is highly infectious, and is transferred by fecal contamination of food and water. Water, of course, is the concern for backpackers. Being a virus, Hepatitis A may pass through a filter.

The immunization is a series of two shots, expensive ones at \$65 a piece. Side effects are supposedly rare. Hepatitis A can be serious for older people, people with compromised immune systems, and people with liver problems.

These people and anyone traveling abroad should seriously consider taking the shots. Call your doctor or your local Health District.—*Peg Ferm, Monroe.*

HEAT EXHAUSTION—"This problem may occur in conjunction with strenuous exertion in a hot environment," says Dr. Fred Darvill in *Mountaineering Medicine*.

While kayaking on Ross Lake recently during very hot weather I suffered from heat exhaustion. Normally when hiking I drink frequently from my hip-pocket water bottle, and have access to snacks in my waist pocket. But I don't have such a convenient system while kayaking. Obviously, I need one.

The symptoms came about on the second and third afternoons of our 4-day trip. On both days we had been on the water and in full sun since early morning, paddling steadily but not fast.

Besides breakfast, I had had only a few swallows of water at lunch.

I didn't feel ill until we stopped to camp. Then I had feelings of "faintness, malaise, and nausea" (*Mountaineering Medicine*). Immersing myself in the lake succeeded in making the symptoms worse, and I didn't improve until I moved to shade, reclined, and drank lots of water over the next couple of hours.

According to *Mountaineering First Aid* (Dr. Jan Carline), "Dehydration is a major factor in the development of heat exhaustion."

For prevention, or after recovery, electrolyte-replacement drinks are fine, but plain water is best once symptoms have developed. Dr. Carline does not recommend use of salt tablets.

More serious than heat exhaustion is heat stroke, which can occur under the same environmental and exertion conditions.—*Ann Marshall, Port Orchard.*

HIKING BOOKS—Tell fellow hikers to look for hiking books at swap meets and used book stores.

I got my *Cascade Alpine Guide* for \$5 (recent edition) and *100 Hikes in the Alpine Lakes* (the new one) for \$3.—*Noelle Roedell, Manchester.*

NO SORE LEGS—For a winter workout tread mills do the trick for me—15% elevation for 2 miles four or so times a week makes for 3:30 time to Camp Muir and no sore legs the next day. Next year the summit!—*Noelle Roedell, Manchester.*

FISHING—The fishing pamphlet we mentioned in the June issue (page 30) is out and available. We didn't have the correct title; it is "Trout Fishing in Washington's High Lakes."

The booklet is small but is a thorough course in everything you need to know for high lake fishing.

It includes a list of suggested lakes with locations keyed to both the Delorme Atlas and range/township.

Fishery biologist Bob Pfeifer says the Mill Creek office of the Department of Fish and Wildlife has a good supply of "Trout Fishing" as do other regional offices. Call the Mill Creek office for

more information, or to request a copy: 206-775-1311 (fax 206-338-1066).

RATTLESNAKES—On the east side of the Cascades, rattlesnakes are active from spring through fall, mostly in the lower elevations. Hikers will likely see snakes sunning on rocks or, if it's too hot, resting in the shade of low elevation trails such as the Chelan Lakeshore or Yakima Greenway.

Watch where you put your feet and never reach with your hands around the edges of logs or rocks. If you hear a rattle, stop, locate the snake and back away from it. The snake wants to get out of there just as much as you do; give it a chance to leave. It will not chase you down the trail.

The snake is a valuable part of eastern Washington's steppe ecosystem and helps to keep rodent populations in control. The venom of the Northern Pacific rattlesnake found around Yakima is mild to medium, according to a biology professor at CWU. Although a bite is very painful, it is seldom life-threatening.—*from an article in the Wenatchee World.*

TRAIL SNACKS—

- 1 cup chopped roasted peanuts
- ½ cup creamy peanut butter
- ½ cup honey
- 1 cup dry milk

In a medium-sized bowl combine peanut butter and honey. Stir in dry milk, mixing well. Form dough into quarter-sized balls. Roll each ball in the peanuts until well coated.

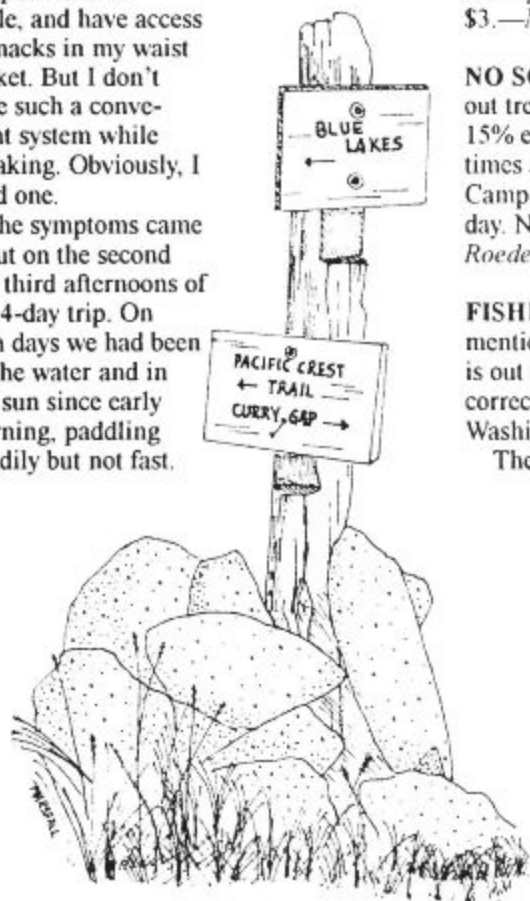
BOOKS AND MAPS—You can order books and maps by mail from the Outdoor Information Center's Seattle office. Write, call, or stop by and ask for their catalog:

Outdoor Recreation Info Center
attn: NW Interpretive Association
915 2nd Ave, #442
Seattle WA 98174
206-220-7450.

WIN FAME & ADMIRATION!

Send us your favorite recipes for hiking and paddling; a review of your newest (or oldest) piece of gear; a safety tip; or tell us about modifying or making your own gear.

PACK & PADDLE
PO BOX 1063
PORT ORCHARD WA 98366



EDITOR'S JOURNAL



Above Angeline Lake, Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

FROM THE MAILBOX—"We've really enjoyed your magazine and we'll miss hiking in Washington."—*moving to Great Lakes, Illinois.*

"A special thank-you for the wonderful August '96 articles by Walt Carribeau and John Roper."—*Puyallup.*

"Backcountry News is the backbone of the magazine!"—*Yakima.*

"My favorite publication!"—*Poulsbo.*

"Our two black cats Mizar and Falstaff say 'meow' to Yellow Cat."—*Tacoma.*

"Yours is my favorite magazine. Thanks!"—*Lacey.*

"Would like to see more stories from old-time hikers and conditions back then."—*Seattle.*

VACATIONERS—As Lee and I were heading back to camp from an exploration to Angeline Lake, we saw backpackers descending toward the little boottrack we were following.

Turns out they were a German family vacationing here. They had come up the East Fork Foss, crossed over on the High Route, and were heading down the West Fork. They were obviously experienced and competent and, although tired, were enjoying themselves.

I asked where they had learned about the High Route and was amazed when they replied they had seen the East and West Fork trails on their road map and just figured there ought to be a way to get from one to the other. "We do this

all the time at home," said the woman.

They had figured on a two-night, three-day trip, but on the High Route they moved slower than they expected and were going to spend a third night out.

"The weather here is so wonderful in the summer," they smiled. We pointed to the clouds massing in the southwest, and warned that they could expect rain soon. I'm not sure they believed us then, but the next morning—August 2—we hiked out in steady rain.

We parted ways once we reached Big Heart Lake and didn't see them again, but hope they made it out still smiling.

E-MAIL—Over the last several months we have received a number of questions about when we might be reached by e-mail. It's on our list of things we want to do, but we don't have a timetable.

KAREN'S COLUMN—Be sure to check the *Seattle P-I* on Thursdays. Its "Getaways" section now features a hiking column by well-known *Pack & Paddle* contributor Karen Sykes.

Karen has been writing up her adventures for us for years. We've always enjoyed her stories. Her columns in the *P-I* will cover basic trails for the general public rather than epic scrambles, and will serve to enlighten and encourage the many folks who will read them.

Although her column is designed to be a summer feature, she told us recently, she hopes she'll be able to suggest winter trips as well.

We look forward with interest to reading about her recommended hikes.

RECENT TRIPS—Lee and I went back to Ross Lake in August, where we spent several days paddling from one end to the other (and back again). We enjoy the Ross Lake Resort and stayed there again during this visit.

We also spent three days on the Cascadia Marine Trail with some paddling friends. We'll write up both these trips for future issues.

SYMPOSIUM—Look for us at the Kayak Symposium later this month. Lee will be the one studiously taking notes in the technical classes. I'll be the one spending my time on the waterfront, trying out all the neat boats.

ANNIVERSARY—Yellow Cat has an anniversary in September. It was five years ago this month that she wandered in off the road and up to our porch to ask for a handout. When we learned that she could type *and* sort mail we convinced her to stay.

See you in the backcountry,

Ann Marshall



SUBSCRIBE TO

PACK & PADDLE



the magazine about backcountry travel in Washington and the Pacific Northwest

___ 1 year (12 issues) \$19.46—(\$18.00 + \$1.46 state sales tax)

___ 2 years (24 issues) \$35.67—(\$33.00 + 2.67 state sales tax)

___ Gift (we'll send a card)

(Residents of states other than Washington may subtract tax.)

name _____

address _____

city, state, ZIP _____

send with payment (check or money order) to:

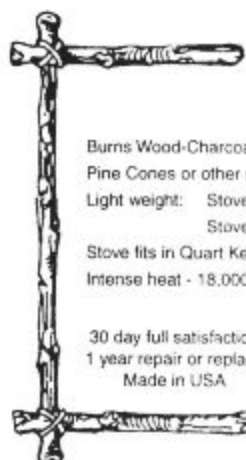
Pack & Paddle

PO Box 1063

Port Orchard WA 98366

Questions? Call us at 360-871-1862

9/96

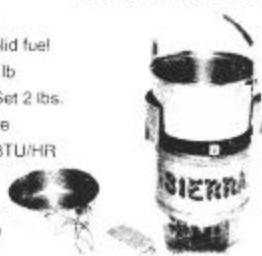


SIERRA STOVE

Wood Burning - Backpacking
-Never Run Out Of Gas-

Burns Wood-Charcoal
Pine Cones or other solid fuel
Light weight: Stove 1lb
Stove Set 2 lbs.
Stove fits in Quart Kettle
Intense heat - 18,000 BTU/HR

30 day full satisfaction
1 year repair or replace
Made in USA



Stove \$43.00 (Cat 111)
Stove Set \$59.00 (Cat 111C)
includes: Stove-
Stainless Kettle set
Windshield-Xtra grate-
Nylon sack-Tongs

ZZ Corp.
10808 Kaylor Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
1-800-594-9046
Fax 310-598-6643
email: zcorp2@fa.net

VISA OR MASTERCARD ACCEPTED



FREE CATALOG 40+ PAGES OF FOOD

ALPINEAIRE
BACKPACKERS PANTRY
HARVEST FOODS
MOUNTAIN HOUSE
RICHMOOR/NATURAL HIGH
TRAVELING LIGHT
VOYAGEUR TRAILS
CHAMY SNACKS & MEALS
BAKEPACKER ♦ POUCHMATE
LITE-ANCHOR ♦ SQWINCHER
PACK LINERS
MILKMAN MILK
BULK ITEMS

NEW IN "97"

BOYD ♦ MUD COFFEE
GRIZZLY GEAR ♦ CAMPSUDS
PUR ♦ NO RINSE

THE CAMPERS PANTRY
PO BOX 293
FARMINGTON MN 55024-0293
(612)463-3765 1-800-726-8796

UPS & PRIORITY SHIP

North Cascades Basecamp



Join us at our family style inn for hiking, bicycling, fishing, or just plain relaxing in the heart of the Cascades. Hearty breakfasts and dinners. Hot tub. Families and groups welcome. No smoking. Reservations recommended.

Contact Dick & Sue Roberts
255 Lost R. Rd., Mazama WA 98833
(509) 996-2334

Outstanding Paddling & Hiking in the North Cascades



Only 3 Hours from Seattle

- Canoes, Kayaks and Motorboats
- Small Boat Portage from Diablo Lake
- Modern Floating Cabins with Kitchens & Showers
- Water Taxi for Hikers, Tent Camping

For Reservations or Brochure Call or Write:
Ross Lake Resort, Rockport Wa 98283
(206) 386-4437 (Local from Seattle Area)

FREE MT. WEATHER FORECASTS

ACCESS TWO GREAT WAYS
FOUR MINUTE RECORDING
206 450-4901 (ACCESS # 7411)
CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE
<http://www.gorp.com/wow/>
Custom Forecasts
Regional Mt. Forecasts
Weather Newsletters
WASHINGTON ONLINE WEATHER