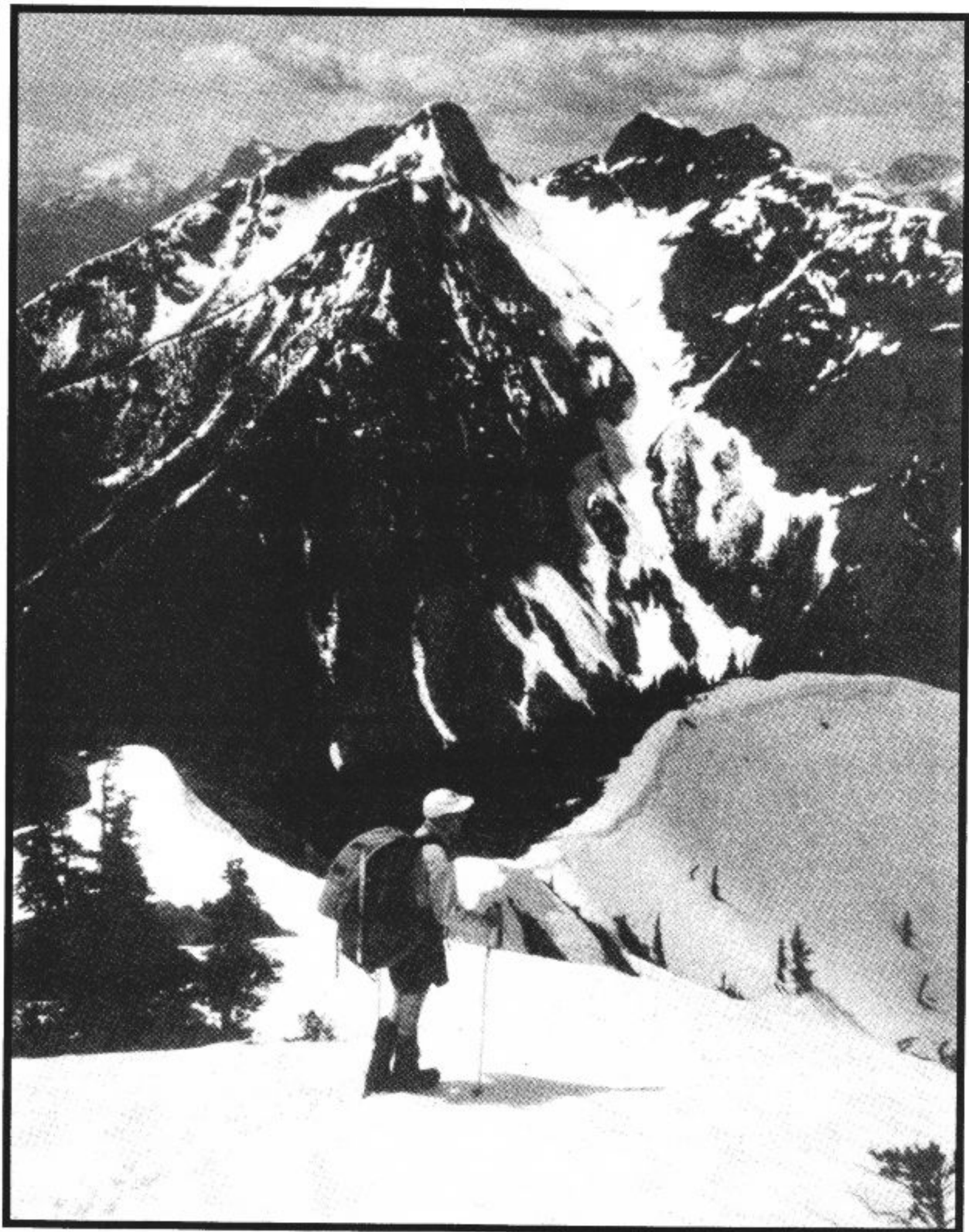


PACK & PADDLE®

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

NOVEMBER 1997
\$2.00



The Methow Valley

A River runs through it, mountains surround it and Ponderosa Pine populate it.

And in the heart of it all is the **MAZAMA COUNTRY INN**

14 room log beam and cedar lodge with restaurant and outdoor hot tub. **800-843-7951** or www.mazama-inn.com



BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

From Volume 1, Number 1 to the current issue. Write or call for ordering information:

Pack & Paddle
 PO Box 1063
 Port Orchard WA 98366
 360-871-1862

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

BACKCOUNTRY NOTES

Pen-and-ink notecards of backcountry scenes. Blank inside. Envelopes included. Six different designs.



Pkg of 8 for \$7.50, includes tax and postage.

Send for brochure

Backcountry Notes
 PO Box 1063
 Port Orchard WA 98366

Over 20 specialty makers of handcrafted sleeping bags, backpacks and tents. We custom fit.

BACKCOUNTRY GEAR LIMITED
www.backcountrygear.com
 Eugene, Oregon USA

Equipment for the body. Built with soul.
 Call now for your FREE Gear Manual
800-953-5499

SKI SALE

ALL NEW SKIS \$100
 while they last

USED Adult package **\$115**
 USED Junior package **\$89**

USED Snowboard package **\$225**
 Board, Boots & Bindings

NEW & USED XC & TELE GEAR

Shop early for best used gear

Over 200 tents in stock
 Sleeping bag closeouts

visit our web site at
www.bearcatweb.com/sportsreplay

SPORTS REPLAY
 5421 196th St SW
 LYNNWOOD 425-775-4088
 IN OUR 14th YEAR



Seattle Fabrics

Outdoor & Recreational Fabrics
 Retail & Wholesale
 Special Orders • Shipping Anywhere

SNOW SPORTS • Gore-Tex® • Fleece Fabrics • Waterproof Fabrics • Bag Fabrics • Patterns	HIKING/CAMPING • Coated Nylons • Sleepbag Zippers • Hardware & Webbing • Repair Items • Mosquito Netting • Bivy Sac Patterns	WATER SPORTS • Sunbrella® • Marine Zippers • Dry Bag Materials • Neoprene • Window Vinyl • Marine Hardware	OTHER ITEMS • Patterns & Books • All Widths Canvas • Fabrics For Kites, Windsocks, Banners, Flags, Also Velcro, Webbing & Zippers
--	---	---	---

OPEN MON THROUGH SAT 9-5
 9-7 THURSDAYS
 CATALOG AVAILABLE

(206) 525-0670

FAX (206) 525-0779

<http://www.seattle2000.com/seattlefabrics>

Helpful Staff • Classes Available 8702 Aurora Ave N Seattle 98103 • SE Corner of 68th & Aurora

Pack & Paddle®

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 11

Features

- 14 Cathedral Provincial Park
Chuck Gustafson
- 19 Shawatum Mountain and Mount Brice
John Roper
- 23 Symposium
Lee McKee
- 24 Paddling Yellowstone Lake
Bob McBride
- 26 Three Summits in the North Cascades
Mark Owen and Paul Cho

RANDOM VIEW—



Madeleine Beatty

We came across this bicycle memorial on the Mission Ridge-Devils Gulch loop trail. We are not sure how the rider fared, but his sense of humor was intact enough to hang it on a tree with a note describing his travails. He had 6 miles to hike out.

Departments

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

COVER PHOTO:

Shawatum Mountain and Mitch Blanton from Pyrrhotite Peak. Skagit drainage in British Columbia. Photo by John Roper.

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:

Margaret Farley
Shirley Haley
Ramona Hammerly
Carolyn Langford
Louise Marshall
David Werstler & Kathi Marlowe



printed on recycled paper
with soy-based ink

©1997 Pack & Paddle Publishing, Inc.
All rights reserved.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

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

A TIME AND PLACE FOR RENEWAL

It's hard to believe
That two years have gone past
Since I doubled my 'scription with you.
Each issue is relished
As much as the last
Bringing wondrous ventures anew.

I've hiked and I've biked
Overseas far from here
And I'm happy to be home this autumn
For we live in a fabulous
Part of the sphere
Pack & Paddle knows—
Stories, they've got 'em!

D.S. Wallace
Burien, Washington

Ed. Note: See November 1995, page 4, for D.S. Wallace's first renewal verse, in limerick form.

WHERE ARE FEES GOING?

I would like to voice my concern about something that is bothering me.

I read an article in the newspaper a while back about Cascade Pass. The road up there is 23 miles long, starting in Marblemount. The first 6 miles are paved, then it's gravel the rest of the way up.

The posted speed limit is 35mph. On most of this road, you are lucky to go 10mph. The road has many potholes, and most of the rest has that washboard effect. Very rough on you and the vehicle.

When we arrived at the parking lot it was full. This is the last weekend of summer and it was probably full almost every day throughout the entire summer.

Where are all the fees going that we all have to pay now to hike these trails? It seems to me that they could have at least flattened out the roadway.

We are being forced to pay for our pleasure now—can't we expect certain things, also?

Wanda Goms
Everett, Washington

VOTE 'EM OUT

Regarding Forest Service user fees, I should like to introduce another aspect since it is evident the new fee sys-

tem has been met with considerable distaste.

It is Congress who decided this use of fees and Congress who sets the Forest Service budget. So let's do the one thing that is still "free" in this country and vote those responsible out of office.

Noreen Edwards
Seattle, Washington

"DAY PACK"

I read with interest the article by Val from Edmonds, "An Unexpected Night Out," in the October issue (page 28). I connected with the part where she talks about Jim and his "day pack."

I, too, get remarks from people on the size of my pack. The only comment I make is, "If you get into trouble, do you want me to open my pack or your pack?"

Robert Sheeley
Enumclaw, Washington

MOUNTAIN FACTS

I enjoyed Ben and Nancy Brodie's trail report about Mount Whitney (*October, page 20*), having climbed Mount Whitney by the same route in 1986.

Whitney's height, however, is 14,491 feet, not 14,495 feet. This majestic mountain is the highest mountain in the conterminous US, but according to my research ranks only 11th, 15th and 28th tallest of those US mountains with ≥ 5000 , 1000, and 250 feet prominence (saddle drop), respectively.

Speaking of prominence, I am impressed with Mick Campbell's reports (*October, page 16*). Conversely, I disagree that a *true* "peak" must satisfy the 400-foot prominence rule.

Peg and Bill Stark schedule another slide show!

See page 29 for details.

Colorado Fourteener experts use 300 feet as the general minimum requirement to designate a 14,000-foot landform as a separate mountain. And at least one landform with less than 250 feet prominence is included in the 54-peak time-tested list. After much study I established the minimum prominence criterion for a minor mountain at 250 feet.

In the North Cascades, "East Fury Peak" (320 feet), Inspiration Peak (320 feet), and "Jackknife Peak" (280 feet, aka "Dirk Peak" by John Roper) all are impressive mountains with less than 400 feet prominence.

Furthermore, famous Sahale Mountain, near Cascade Pass, rises less than 150 feet above the lowest pass between it and higher Boston Peak—showing that even the 250-foot prominence rule is in some cases too restrictive!

Steve Fry
Edmonds, Washington

STATE PARKS

Two things I find important to anyone not using motors for outdoor recreation. The first is to contact your legislator as well as the Parks Director for our State Parks. RV owners are using a strong voice for their needs and wants. The legislators control the monies spent and may not always be aware of the types of recreation facilities you need or want.

The second is a plea for volunteers to be counters on the John Wayne Trail. Over the years I have become acquainted with a hardworking Ranger who has Iron Horse State Park and John Wayne Trail. Counting the persons and whether they are hikers, bikers or horse riders is important to show cause for getting money to maintain them.

Contact Lance Elliott, Ranger with the Ginkgo-Wanapum District, or call Information Center, 800-233-0321, on how to reach him.





Marian Mae Robison
Wapato, Washington

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



 **DRY CREEK** (USGS *Lightning Pk*)—On 9/13 I accessed upper Dry Creek trail from road 2353-200 (stay right on last unmarked spur). A ½-mile hike brought me to the saddle in Prospect Ridge and views of Mount Rainier, Lake Cushman and Hood Canal's elbow.


The old growth forest had many open, moist benches with three types of huckleberries: red, blue, and oval-leaved. The fruit was huge and plentiful. This trail gets little use, but maybe needs to be renamed "Huckleberry-pig-out Trail."

I passed the marker of Kristin Delancy, who died on this trail eleven years to the day, from respiratory failure.


A week later, I started at the lower trailhead early in the morning and followed the peaceful lake shore for 1½ miles. The trail then goes through

second growth forest and follows an old logging road until it crosses a footlog over Dry Creek. At mile 5 a 5-foot-diameter Douglas-fir tree has fallen lengthwise down the trail.

Most of the huckleberries were gone, but edible mushrooms were abundant. —Cindy Notown, 9/13 & 9/22.

 **SOUTH BRANCH LITTLE RIVER** (USGS *Mt Angeles, Port Angeles*)—This was a nice cool trail to hike on a hot day. I crossed one pack bridge on the main fork and three footlogs on the South Branch. The upper three crossings were negligible. Robert Wood stated that there were ten crossings; if so, I missed some.


Fall colors were beautiful on Hurricane Hill and Griff Peak. There was a large paper wasp nest in the alder above the crossing at 3500 feet. There are some old remains of a water aqueduct/culvert system along the first mile of old road.—Cindy Notown, 9/23.

 **AURORA CREEK** (USGS *Lk Crescent*)—I parked at the big turnout east of mile marker 225 on Lake Crescent and walked a short ¼-mile west to the trailhead.

The trail climbs steady at about 1000 feet elevation gain per mile. A side path at about 1.5 miles leads to Aurora Creek, the only water on the trail. I was pleasantly surprised by the clearing of salal by a trail crew. Thanks. I expected this trail to be half lost in vegetation.

The last mile follows the backbone of a ridge and finally drops over the ridge to meet the Aurora Ridge Trail. There


are some interesting old signs. The trail wasn't as dismal as Robert Wood described it. This was a very peaceful climb on a hot day. A few views of the lake and ridges.—Cindy Notown, 9/9.

 **AGATE PASSAGE** (NOAA 18446)—We loaded the kayaks on the cars while it was still dark. In Keyport, we encountered rain and road construction on the only road to the boat ramp. However, we had the two singles and one double in the water by 8:30am and things went well for the next six hours.

When we turned north and approached the bridge we realized there were two large Navy tugs coming down the channel toward us. We crossed paths right under the bridge but the wake was relatively small since they had slowed considerably.

Our destination was Suquamish but we were ahead of schedule so we opted for lunch at Fay-Bainbridge State Park.

On the return trip, we floated with the 4.5-knot current and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We had seen several loons, a few seals and lots of sunshine. On the last leg of the calm water, we viewed the Olympic range with its new snow cover.—Carolyn, Port Orchard, 10/15.

 **QUINULT NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL SYSTEM** (USGS *Quinault Lk East*)—If you have never hiked the Quinault NRT system, or if you haven't been over here for a few years—you are in for a nice treat. The system was expand-

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS DEADLINE: November 18

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

ed last year and it is now possible to hike from the Rain Forest Nature Loop to the World's Largest Sitka Spruce.

Heather and I started from the ranger station at Falls Creek. We hiked the new section to Gatton Creek and then to the giant Sitka spruce. The 1.5 miles between Falls and Gatton Creek is probably the most spectacular section of this network. The forest is incredible with plenty of redwood-size Douglas-firs along the way.

We retraced our route and completed the loop by hiking through the Cedar Bog and to Willaby Creek. Just beyond the Willaby Campground we were forced to retreat. The area has been receiving lots of rain and it was pouring hard on us now. The section of trail running along Lake Quinault is under 1 to 2 feet of water in spots. We followed South Shore Road for the final mile back to the ranger station. Our loop trip was about 8.5 miles.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 10/10.

GRIFFITHS-PRIDAY STATE PARK (USGS Copalis Beach)—Here is a wonderful place south of Olympic National Park that is in a natural state and vehicle free. Griffiths-Priday State Park protects about 1.5 miles of ocean beach on a narrow spit created by the Copalis river. The park also protects almost 2 miles of river shoreline. The interior dunes are home to the endangered snowy plover. We walked the beach access trail—which was under 1 foot of

very cold water in one spot—and then walked the beach. We rounded the spit and hiked up the river flats. The mud-sand is hardpacked during low tide for easy walking. Lots of birds—osprey, scoters, grebes, many more. This is a great place to visit during the winter.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 10/11.

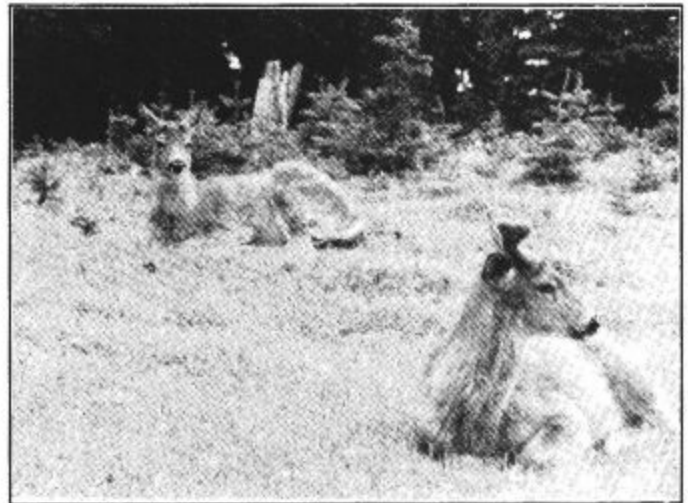
MOUNT JUPITER—Road is gated from 10/1 to 4/30; adds 2.5 miles to hike. Trail maintained to Wilderness boundary.—Ranger, 10/1.

DOSEWALLIPS ROAD—Closed and gated for the season on 10/21.—Ranger, 10/22.

OBSTRUCTION POINT ROAD—Closed for the season.—Ranger, 10/22.

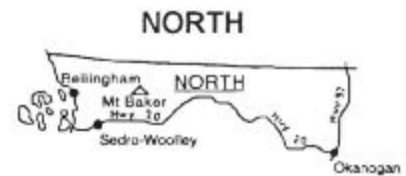
SOL DUC ROAD—Remains open at press time, but will close with snow accumulation.—Ranger, 10/22.

BEACH FIRE BAN—All beach fires continue to be banned from Cape Alava to Yellow Banks.—Ranger, 10/22.



Deer at Hurricane Ridge.

Robert Michelson



TRAPPERS PEAK (USGS Mt Triumph)—Heather and I headed for the Thornton Lakes trail and at the highpoint veered off on the scramble path that attains the 5964-foot summit of Trappers Peak. The path begins at a trail post marking the way to the lakes.

The worst part of it is in the beginning—a steep start through brush and

Reveg '97

The Olympic National Park Revegetation Project this year continued at Sand Point, on the ocean near Lake Ozette, as last year. The project is replanting trampled areas and delineating camping areas and trails with beach logs. Dozens, perhaps hundreds, of volunteers and a handful of Park Service staff toiled mightily in the wilderness, assisting Nature to regain a balance.

Trudging out the slippery boardwalk, being careful not to crash under my 55-pound pack, I was imagining the return hike five days later, tired, dirty, food all gone, and feeling virtuous for three days of hard labor giving something back for all the pleasures of years in the wilderness.

In between that hike out and back,

some impressions and memories:

The waning gibbous moon rising late and flooding the midnight forest with light. The lone deer grazing on the summit of the big hill at the tip of Sand Point silhouetted against the sunset sky, and the single hiker in the same spot the next morning gazing out to sea silhouetted against the dawn.

The screams of squabbling raccoons ringing in the night forest, sounding like the screams of an outraged child. The large brown pelicans which I had never seen before, feeding on the beach with the seagulls, brought north by El Nino. Some of the crew taking a break in the heat of the day to swim in the ocean, now seven degrees warmer than usual because of El Nino.

Talking with the young staff and volunteers about their hopes and aspirations. Most of them have recent degrees


in environmental sciences, anthropology, English, and can talk knowledgeably about environmental issues. How different from the business administration majors of my day. Three of the older volunteers I worked with are engineers. I had to be shown about half a dozen times how to operate the release on the come-along, used to drag half-ton logs from the beach. A Boeing engineer took one look at that complicated instrument and understood instantly how it worked, and how to work it.


And always, always the energy, the drive, the devotion to the work of the Park Service staff, and how contagious this energy is to inspire us volunteers.

—Roger Gray, Bremerton

some rock that requires use of hands. After that initial climb, the path follows a narrow ridge to the summit—the views grow better with every footstep. The summit begs that you spend lots of time and film taking in the rugged splendor of the North Cascades. All three of the Thornton Lakes are clearly visible below and the village of Newhalem can be seen about 5 miles away and one mile below!


The roundtrip is about 10 miles with a 3000-foot vertical. Much of the way is rough going, so allow lots of time—especially if you end up picking huckleberries like we did!—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/20.

 **SAUK MOUNTAIN** (USGS *Sauk Mtn*)—Heather and I did an evening hike up the 2-mile trail to the old lookout site on Sauk Mountain. The road to the trailhead starts right at the Rockport State Park. We hiked the 2.1-mile trail in just under 45 minutes—we were the only ones up there today! The trail is in great shape.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/18.

 **SCHRIEBER'S MEADOW, PARK BUTTE** (USGS *Baker Pass*)—Heather and I hiked up the “new” Scott Paul Trail 603.1 before heading to Park Butte. Surprisingly, we encountered only three other hikers.

Everyone who was out that day was on the summit of Park Butte, a lookout that still remains and offers fantastic views of Mount Baker and the Twin Sisters. The bottom half of the trail and the last leg of our loop traverses some beautiful forests and the outwash of Easton Glacier. A bridge spans the main channel, but on hot days or periods of heavy rain, prepare to get your feet wet crossing the secondary channels.

Total loop is about 11 miles.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/19.

 **CUTTHROAT PEAK** (USGS *Washington Pass*)—The invitation to climb Cutthroat was too good to pass up. Two days later I found myself bivvying at the foot of the South Buttress with Mike, Karen, and Ansel. This place, about an hour's hike from Highway 20, is a beautiful spot with a picture perfect view of Liberty Bell and its neighboring spires.

At dusk we saw two climbers descending from the South Buttress. They told us of their epic descent following a rope jam high up on the route. They salvaged as much rope as possible by cutting. This 30-foot cord too was left behind after the final rappel.

Next morning we scrambled up the


scree to the entrance of the west twin gully which rises directly to a notch in the buttress crest. Where the gully steepens just beneath the notch we found the 30-foot orphan rope hanging. From the notch it's an easy scramble to the first steep section where the fun begins. It's a large slab with a nice catwalk which traverses left into a corner with a small tree. Beyond the slab the route eases off for a while.

The next technical section starts from a belay stance on a narrow ledge. We saw two possible routes here. Karen followed the crack system up, right, and traversed left to a ledge. I followed the left diagonal crack to the ledge. This is followed by a pitch with a squeeze chimney and more scramble. The next pitch begins just beneath the east false summit. (There are two false summits that form a skyline.)

Karen and Mike ascended a rib and traversed left to a sandy gully which leads to a saddle between the false summits. Ansel and I tried a shallow chimney which rises to the sandy gully. As I climbed higher it became apparent that there was no way to protect the last steep section. But then I found a blessed old piton directly above me. I stretched slowly until I was able to clip in a runner.

From the sandy slope between the false summits the route crosses a moat, up a short wall, and down to a notch at the base of the summit tower. We climbed an exposed slab to a large down-sloping ledge. This point is a mere 14 vertical feet from the summit plateau. It takes just a couple of 5.8 moves over an off-width crack. A 3½-inch cam is useful here.

The crack angles right toward a dropoff which makes one a bit nervous. It took me a while to focus, but once I made the first move the rest was easy. Soon everyone joined me on the summit. Descent was fast. Being a popular route rappel slings were everywhere. Time: 10 hours round-trip from the bivvy site.—Paul Cho, Shoreline, 9/21.

 **CRYSTAL LAKE TRAIL** (USGS *Mt Barney*)—Even with an early start from home, Lee and I weren't ready to leave the trailhead, north of Winthrop, until mid-afternoon.

We hoped to climb from the trailhead at 2800 feet to about 6000 feet, where the map showed that we might be able to camp. This trail is not in the 100 Hikes guides, and not much information is available about it.

After following an old road bed for a short way, the trail climbs in steep switchbacks. When the switchbacks

end, the trail sidehills far above Farewell Creek, still gaining elevation. A couple of creeks are available for water.

In a couple of miles we ran into fresh snow. At first it wasn't a problem, but as it got deeper and more consistent, it was very slippery. With my knee still recovering from a fall last summer, I walked tentatively and very slowly.

At about 5850 feet we came upon a small trailside camp near a stream. With daylight fading fast, the temperature plummeting, and the snow now about 6 inches deep, we decided to take it, not knowing what was ahead.

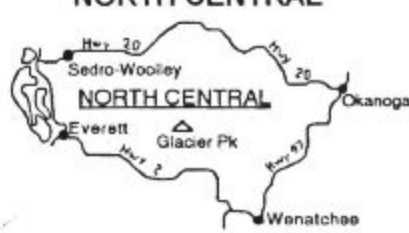
After rain during the night, the morning sky was not promising. We slept in. After breakfast we set out to see how far we would get. A short way up the trail we came upon a huge meadow and swamp and continued past it to the gentle pass (6150 feet) at the Wilderness boundary. The trail then dropped through larches and talus to about 5700 feet and traversed west to cross some small streams before reaching Disaster Creek.

I stopped at this point at a small campsite and built a warm fire while I waited for Lee to finish exploring.

He continued up Disaster Creek until he lost the trail in deep snow in a rockslide at about 6600 feet. Not wanting to continue by compass, by himself, he turned back about 500 feet below Crystal Lake. Although we didn't get very far, it was an all-day excursion.

The next day, on the way out, we dropped our packs at a side-trail we had seen on our way in. We spent a couple of hours following blazes and cut logs on this abandoned route up Farewell Creek. We surmise it was heading for the pass, where it might then drop down to join the old Falls Creek sheep drive trail. Abandoned trails are our favorite part of the Pasayten, so this was the highlight of the trip.—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 10/14-16.

NORTH CENTRAL



BOSTON BASIN-CASCADE PASS TRAVERSE (USGS *Cascade Pass*)—Watched my son's football game at Sedro Woolley and drove to the trailhead with Chris Vogelsberg and his son, John. Bivvied at the parking lot but didn't get a whole

off Johannesburg.

After an early breakfast we walked down the road to the Boston Basin trailhead. Took a few wrong turns in the brush before breaking out into meadows, moraines, and glacier-polished slabs. Beautiful! Due to late melting snow, there are still some flowers but the small subalpine huckleberry leaves are turning red with only green, unripe berries.

The traverse to Sahale Arm is not difficult or dangerous unless you are inexperienced. Once on the Arm we took a nap in the sun then headed down the trail. Large numbers of sharpshin hawks were migrating through Cascade Pass. Marmots, pikas and ground squirrels were in a feeding frenzy. Saw only one NOLS climbing party from Boston Basin trail to Sahale Arm but met one or two hundred on the popular Cascade Pass/Sahale Arm trail.

There was already snow on the ground at Sahale and it is plastered on the north facing headwalls of the peaks. —Dave Parent, Freeland, 9/13.



MAGIC MOUNTAIN (USGS

Cascade Pass)—David Singleton, Dave Lenington, Walter Voegtlin and I enjoyed a sunny pilgrimage to beautiful and famous Magic Mountain (7610 feet). Our approach included hiking westerly to sublime Cascade Pass, and then following a sketchy way-trail up to "Cache Glacier" and historic Cache Col.

Along the way we ate huckleberries, tromped through 6 inches of new snow on the "Cache Glacier," and feasted on spectacular views of Eldorado, Forbidden, and the snow-decorated faces of Spider and Fornidable.

From Cache Col we descended to Kool-Aid Lake, where we camped near some Ptarmigan-Traversers.

On Sunday morning our group

scampered easterly up easy slopes to the 7100-foot pass between Magic and Hurry-Up. We then followed a climbers' trail along the west side of Magic's south ridge, which helped us avoid more difficult climbing.

From the permanent snowfield (at 7500 feet) we walked to the false summit. Next we descended 100 feet in altitude along the northeast side of Magic (class 2), and then ascended an easy ramp and slope to a ledge directly below the summit tower. We then followed the ledge southward and found a class 3 route up the south ridge's final 30 feet.

The views from Magic's airy crest are impressive. Summit rock is metamorphic schist. The Mountaineers club climbing register is full and documents climbs from 1985 to 1994.

We didn't need or use the rope and climbing gear we brought, but hard hats and crampons (for "Cache Glacier") are advisable. Note: The classic photo of Magic in *The North Cascades National Park*, by Harvey Manning *et al.*, 1969, pages 92 and 140-141, make Magic appear much more difficult than it is.

Allow 5 hours roundtrip from Kool-Aid Lake, including 1 hour on top to savor the magical vistas. —Steve Fry, Edmonds, 9/20-21.



HIDDEN LAKE PEAKS

(USGS *Eldorado Pk*)—We camped at 5500 feet and enjoyed a fantastic sunset. Monday morning we went up to Sibley Pass. From here bootpaths continue up the ridge both ways. Monday night camped at 6500 feet. It looked like a tedious boulder scramble around left side of lake to explore, so didn't go down. Instead explored beautiful ridge south of lake. On Tuesday scrambled from tarns up to Point 7088 and finally saw nameless lake which is rocky and barren. —Ron Rugg, Seattle, 9/21-23.



MOUNT PILCHUCK (USGS

Verlot)—I have to take back what I said about the improvements to the Mount Pilchuck trail (*September, page 13*). In wet weather (September through June) the lower part of the trail through the forest is just as swampy and muddy as ever. I wish they had put in some puncheon walkways.

The upper part of the trail, through the lovely open granite gardens of Pilchuck's north face, has been re-routed and "improved" by log ladder-steps and tons of blasting. The trail is now twice as hazardous as it previously was. The log-ladders are steep and narrow, with

rungs far too widely spaced for children or small adults to negotiate.

The rock portions are surfaced with freshly blasted granite chunks, which provide the most unstable walking surface imaginable. The unhappy hiker, teetering gingerly along this sloppy surface, is treated on either side to the view of mangled boulders, shattered and broken, often with the distinctive star-shaped pattern where the blasting occurred. Charming! This vandalism will probably outlast the human race.

My suggestion is to follow the old trail, which bears sharply to the left at the foot of the first log-ladder. It is steep, but mostly across rock, so I don't fear harm to the environment. Just follow the yellow paint splotches, which I had previously considered the most obnoxious thing about Pilchuck.

The old trail rejoins the new one where it swings over the shoulder of the mountain to approach the summit from the south. The new trail here, while unstable and ugly, does cut off some distance and elevation gain-loss (not much). —Peg Ferm, Monroe, 10/18.



MOUNT DICKERMAN

(USGS *Bedal*)—I have never seen so much water on this trail before. A stream was flowing down the trail within the first half-mile from the car. It made us realize how wet September had been.

We reached the lower meadows and no blueberries. I was afraid this was going to be a case of counting my blueberries before they were picked. I was delighted to find lots of berries in the upper meadow, however. This was going to be a blueberry cobbler night.

We had lots of wind on the summit, some high clouds, and lots of views. —Ben and Nancy Brodic with Sparky the hiking Bouvier, Edmonds, 9/29.



BARCLAY, EAGLE LAKES

(USGS *Baring*)—Frost on the trail as we left the car soon made Lee stop to put on more clothes for the easy 2-mile walk to Barclay Lake. The log across Barclay Creek was slick with just-melted ice.

At the end of Barclay, we located the track that heads up the mountainside to Stone Lake. It was not always obvious, but we stayed pretty much on the route. Stone Lake is an okay little pond, but the meadows of Paradise Valley, beyond it, are very nice indeed, with views up to the surrounding ridges.

We spent half an hour or so shivering in the cold shadows by Eagle Lake before heading back. The fungi and mushrooms all along the path were

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

beautiful. We were the only ones there.
—Ann Marshall, Port Orchard, 10/20.

PCT, Stevens Pass North (USGS Labyrinth Mtn)—

Adnan and I went up the PCT from Stevens Pass toward Lake Valhalla. We went only 4 miles because at that point is a wonderful blueberry field. We had lunch there and picked enough berries to see us through the winter. The day was gorgeous.

On our way back down, at about the 3-mile point, we met a vibrant young man who had started the PCT at the Mexico border on May 1, and hoped to make Canada before the snow started to fly. His name is Eric Shinkle and he is from Bremerton. He had rained the week before and got a little discouraged, but the weather was good now and was supposed to remain so for several days.

Since Bremerton is in the *Pack & Paddle* area, we are hoping that one of the readers might know Eric and write to the magazine to let us know if he finished the PCT at Manning Park. We are pulling for him!—Lindy Bakkar, Lynnwood, 9/20.

LAKE VALHALLA (USGS Labyrinth Mtn)—

As we reached Index, it was pouring rain. I voted to return home but everyone else wanted to cross over the pass to the "dry side."


Rick suggested that we hike to Lake Valhalla which we tried to do last summer but were turned back by a blocked road. We decided to give it a try.

Since it was snowing heavily at the top of Stevens Pass, we dropped over the pass 4 miles, took the Smith Brook road and did the hike from that direction. The trailhead was marked only by a piece of paper naming the trailhead and the ever-present trailhead fee marker. We needed 4-wheel drive to reach the trailhead at 3800 feet.

The snow on the trail varied from a few inches to knee-high. At one point, the snow covered a muddy bog which was over-the-boot deep. It snowed much of the trip and we wore wool and rain gear.

A cold wind occasionally turned our umbrellas inside out. We saw a bear lumbering up the hillside away from us. He may have been eating the abundant elderberries. This is not the scenic route but half the distance of the other route. It is a 5.5 mile round trip. Trail scale: 3

We headed for Leavenworth for dinner and camped at 8-mile Camp up Icicle Creek.—Edythe, Jennifer, Judy, Rick, Robert, from Aberdeen and Olympia, 10/11.

 **GRIZZLY PEAK** (USGS
Labyrinth Mtn, Captain Pt)—
Grizzly Peak is unusual because the PCT goes right over its summit.

Drive east of Stevens Pass about 4 miles and then north on Smith Brook road 6700 about 3.5 miles. Parking could be a problem on a busy weekend but we were the only car at the trailhead.

Trail 1590 starts by traversing an open slope, but soon enters old growth forest. After about a mile and 500 feet of gain, the trail joins the PCT at Union Gap. On this day the trail was very muddy once we entered the forest.

The elevation gain is quickly lost as the PCT drops down to Janus Lake. We had a lunch break here. The trail then starts to climb and pretty soon we broke out of the big trees. The trail continually switches from one side of the ridge to the other giving ever-changing views. The views of Glacier Peak are just incredible; Glasses Lake and Heather Lake nestled in the forest to the north of the trail make a superb foreground to the mountain panorama. We were able to pick out the lookout tower on Evergreen Mountain, the sight of our previous hike.

Arriving at the high point of the trail at Grizzly we had our second lunch and enjoyed the views as we basked in the sunshine. We had taken about 4.5 hours for the hike in; many stops for pictures. My brother Bob had his video camera, but put it in his pack for the hike out. We logged a total of 3780 feet elevation gain for the day—2700 feet in and 1080 feet out, a little more than we expected. Beware: *100 Hikes* says 1500

and 600 feet.

Round trip about 17 miles, and 7¼ hours; allow lots of time for enjoying the views.—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 9/29.

TWISP PASS (USGS Gilbert, McAlester Mtn)—

We had two days to hike without our children this year, and we chose to head up the Twisp River road to territory we hadn't explored yet. The parking lot for the Twisp Pass trail and the North Lake trail was located midway between the two trailheads, adding ½-mile to both hikes, but making it easier for the Forest Service to maintain. We started uphill in the sun, swatting black flies.

The grade was steep, but the trail soon became shaded as we climbed around Lincoln Butte. At 2 miles was the junction for the Copper Pass trail, which we thought we'd try the next day. At Twisp Pass, 4½ miles from the trailhead, we paused to look down on Dagger Lake, within North Cascades National Park.

We wanted to climb to the lookout site on Stiletto Peak, but had left the narrative describing the route to it in the car. Poring over our maps, we planned a route to what we thought might be the site, but after an hour of scrambling up slopes, we realized that what we were aiming for probably wasn't Stiletto Peak.

Instead, we chose to drop over the hill 1000 feet to Dagger Lake, where we swam and sunned ourselves on logs. Then came the long climb back up to the Pass, and the hike downward. But what



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

11/97

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

solitude. We met just two hikers all day.
—Ken and Laura Wild, Arlington, 8/4.

NORTH LAKE (USGS Gilbert)—We left the trailhead at 7am, hoping to avoid the heat, dust and flies of the previous day. Most of our route uphill, following North Creek, was in the shade at that time of day. It was 5 miles to the lake, a beautiful place surrounded by meadows, with Gilbert Peak towering over the whole scene.

We found a metal sign almost obscured by the bark of the pine tree in which it had been embedded many years ago, indicating we were near North Lookout, but didn't know which peak the lookout might be on. When we stopped at the ranger station in Twisp, no one there knew exactly where the lookout had been placed, either.—Ken and Laura Wild, Arlington, 8/5.

MAD LAKE (USGS Chikamin Cr)—This was a 17-mile roundtrip hike on trail 1409.1, the Mad River trail from Maverick Saddle to pretty little Mad Lake, in the wonderful, almost-always-sunny country northeast of Lake Wenatchee. The elevation gain is only about 1600 feet the entire distance, making a great leg stretcher. There are wonderful views of the Mad River and beautiful meadows to traverse. Heather and I didn't encounter one hiker all day!

Now the bad news—we encountered 10 motorcyclists. But this region still deserves your attention as a hiker. Only one of the bikers was cruising at a dangerous speed. Four actually stopped to chat with us. It is very hard to get angry at these guys. Ironically, the meadows and lake shore in this area are in better shape than most in the heavily used hiker-only areas.

Come here mid-week and your disturbances will probably be minimal. The drive to the Maverick Saddle will probably annoy you more than the machines—but, hey, it keeps the crowds down!—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/12.

ESTES BUTTE (USGS Trinity)—A couple of years back the Chiwawa Horse Club helped to reconstruct this notoriously steep trail into a more acceptable byway. The trail is still steep—probably the longest 3 miles I have ever hiked—but the path is wide and graded with a nice tread that has yet to become chewed up.

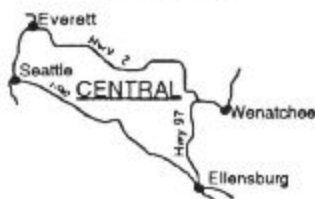
It's a good hike but you just have to enjoy working hard to appreciate Estes Butte. The old lookout is gone and so are most of the views. The view from the lookout summit is limited but still

nice.

Heather and I didn't have time to go any farther—but the rest of the trail (primitive and lightly traveled) is calling for our return.

Despite the obvious signs of horse use, this particular Saturday we saw only one other group of hikers. The trail is dusty—a good reason to soak feet in the cool waters of Rock Creek on your return.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/13.

CENTRAL



TONGA RIDGE (USGS Skykomish)—Tammy and I both had Monday off so we decided to try the Tonga Ridge trail 1058. Reaching it was a snap, as the road was in excellent shape. From Highway 2, east bound, turn right on the Foss River road, about a mile past the Skykomish Ranger Station. Follow the signs up road 6830. High upon the ridge, take the right fork (road 310) another mile or so to the trail head, 4300 feet.

Dawning her leopard print knapsack and gaiters, along with her dangly earrings and various accouterments of the occult, Tammy quickly metamorphosed into Kunga Girl, Queen of the Trail, which we presently renamed "Kunga Ridge." Adopting a submissive posture, I kept a discreet distance but remained close enough to be of service when needed.

The trail is in excellent shape, and it ambles along quite amiably, providing splendid views of the Foss river drainages. And although they were past their peak, there were still enough kunga berries to give us pause along the trail. At about 2.5 miles, we passed along Mount Sawyer but chose not to scramble up the rough path to the summit. Instead we continued another ½-mile to Sawyer Pass, 4800 feet, where we succumbed to a brief nap amid the autumnal foliage, after a lunch of hot buttered groats.

This is a splendid hike for families and folks limited to a few miles of relatively easy hiking. In fact, for those who can go no farther, a meadow passed at about 2 miles offers an excellent alternative destination, with plenty of roaming and picnic opportunities.—M.J. Anderson & Kunga Girl, Seattle, 9/22.

MOUNT PERSIS (USGS Index)—Someone has put flagging at the trailhead and rockslide two-thirds of the way up; otherwise no changes since my last trip here two years ago. It was a cold Monday so there was no one else. For the first time I did not take a swim in the upper lakelet! After all the rain, everything was full with inlets and outlets.

A little slippery going down with sprinkles and hail. We used lights last ½-mile. I talked to someone at Skykomish Ranger Station who did not think logging is imminent in this area.—Ron Rugg, Seattle, 10/6.

MAIL BOX PEAK (USGS Bander, Chester Morse Lk)—Having spent a couple of months "armchair hiking" with *Pack & Paddle*, I found Ann's description of Mailbox Peak (see July, page 27) promising meadows and a not-too-easy trail enough of a lure to shake the dust off a knapsack too long ignored.

As described in the July issue, exit 34 on I-90 leads to the Middle Fork road, which leads to Lutheran Camp. Turning left at the camp, find parking some meters to the east in a wide spot recently cleaned by Friends of the Trail. After hopping the yellow gate, I walked about ¼-mile to the trailhead.

For those unfamiliar with the trail, the toothbrush will do nothing to help you locate it. Better to keep an eye to the left. You'll find it about the time you hear the brook. If you see the brook, you've missed it. Turn around and find the trail. Once up the trail, the stream will reassure you that you've found the right path.

The way up is relentless, but the trail is easy under foot. After about 2 miles, I was beginning to sag, but felt revived by blueberries, made all the more refreshing by their jackets of dew. As the trail turned east, a refreshing plunge through shoulder high ferns with chickadees chirping encouragement helped keep my spirits stoked.

Presently the trail "ended" at a talus field. Being alone and not as spry as I once was, I knew as soon as I saw it that I wouldn't be crossing that. I located several flagged trails to the west that braided themselves through the timber, and was thus able to skirt the talus and continue through the meadows to the summit.

A fine hike, and a wonderful re-introduction to joy of tramping along, but man-oh-man, it was steep.—M. J. Anderson, Seattle, 8/31.

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

DIRTY HARRY'S PEAK

(USGS *Bandera*)—Having stretched the stiffness out of my legs from an earlier hike up Mailbox Peak, I decided to continue my march up the pass by hiking Dirty Harry's Peak, so named by Harvey Manning after "Dirty Harry" Ault, who was responsible for some of the worst logging atrocities in the Snoqualmie drainages.

With *Hiking the Mountains to Sound Greenway* as my guide, I found the "trail" by taking exit 38 from I-90, north bound; and then following the signs (east) to the "State Fire Training Center." Park at the locked gate and follow the paved road a short way, crossing the river. From the river continue a long ¼-mile to a bend in the roadway where the trail (a grown-over logging road) enters from the right.

This road-as-trail has little to recommend it, by itself. It's hard underfoot and alternates between dry (and sometimes deep) stream bed, swamp, and alder. Once or twice it takes on some semblance of trail, but that is rare and brief. Still, it's a worthwhile walk, in part for the ever-changing nature of the road itself (What's next? Why am I doing this?) and, later, for a nice enough summit that allows a little poking around amid flowers, rocks and trees, and views in all directions.

After about 2.5 miles of moderate climbing the road-turned-stream-bed takes a decided turn to the left (west), where a trail enters from the right and proceeds several hundred yards to Dirty Harry's Balcony, a worthwhile sidetrip and destination.

Another reason to make the hike were the promised logging relics at about 3600 feet, which I never found. They're up there, I'm sure, but probably easy to miss amid the alder jungles. Route finding throughout was not a problem, though I was misled by flags which took me nowhere. At the assumed relic site, about 3600 feet, the way passes over a broad flat, probably a yarding site. Cross the flat and look for an obvious point to continue on your left; scattered flags will lead you along the road to the summit.—M. J. Anderson, Seattle, 9/7.

GRANITE MOUNTAIN

(USGS *Snoqualmie Pass*)—I never thought of this as a blueberry hike, but they were everywhere. We picked half a canteen full in no time. Saw fresh blueberry bear poop on the trail.

It was so nice to actually feel hot on the way up. I tried to remember the feeling for the coming winter. We even had the summit to ourselves for awhile. I think we saw 16 people all day. The I-

90 traffic report was horrible, so we drove up to have blueberry pancakes at the Inn at the Summit.—Ben and Nancy Brodic with Sparky the hiking Bouvier, Edmonds, 9/23.

LAKE ETHEL

(USGS *Wenatchee Lk, Chiwaukum Mtns*)—I called Maria to see if she'd like to go hiking and off we went. We drove east from Stevens Pass 16 miles and turned right at sign that says Ethel Lake Trail.

There, the guide book directions get a bit confusing. We did not ford a creek or cross several gravel bars so maybe we ended up at the wrong trailhead.

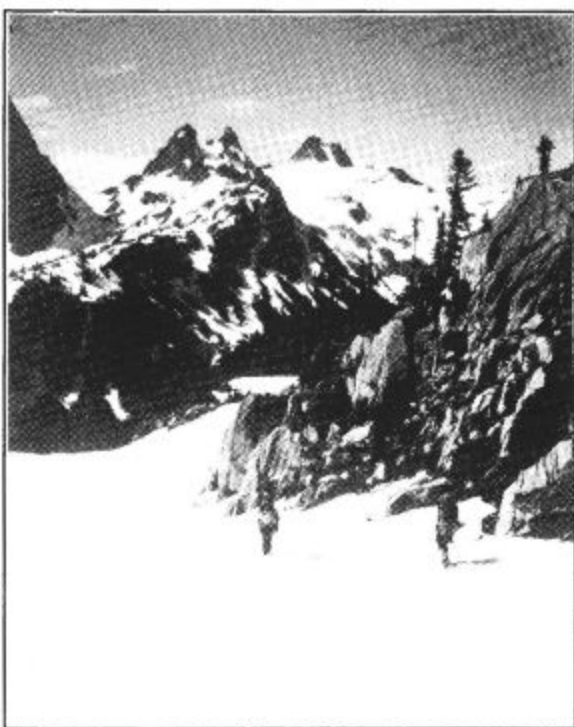
The guidebook says you cross a logging road 3 times; we crossed it 4 times. It was definitely longer than 9 miles round trip. By the 2.5-mile point we had brisk gusts of wind and a few sprinkles of rain. More clothes went on and by the time we reached the lake we were bundled up. It was cold and windy and we ate lunch hurriedly.

Snow blanketed the hillside above the lake, making a contrast of yellow, orange and red of the heather and green of evergreen trees with the larches on the ridge crest. A beautiful sight. We decided to warm up with Autumn Leaf Festival weekend in Leavenworth for the rest of the day and evening. 3300+ feet elevation gain on good trail. Trail scale: 5.—Edythe, Maria, Robert, Aberdeen and Seattle, 9/27.

LAKE JULIUS, LOCH

EILEEN (USGS *Big Jim Mtn, Chiwaukum Mtns*)—Acting on a tip from *Pack & Paddle* (September, page 37), Heather and I stayed at the Scottish Lakes High Camp for a couple of nights to access some wonderful territory in one of the more remote areas of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

We stayed in a wonderfully cozy A-frame from which we were able to roll out and immediately begin hiking. Our first destination was Lake Julius and Loch Eileen. Loch Eileen was especially beautiful and surrounding larches were just beginning to change yellow. We were the only ones out here today! Roundtrip from High Camp is about 5 miles, a great late afternoon jaunt.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/25.



Ann and Lindy on the Alpine Lakes High Route near Iron Cap Pass. Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Linda Rostad

CHIWAUKUM, LARCH, CUP LAKES

(USGS *Chiwaukum Mtns*)—We began by using the Summer Trail that connects High Camp (see above) to McCue Ridge trail 1574. The weather was crazy today and for the next 7 hours we had non-stop wind, rain, and snow—but what a great day it was!


McCue Ridge is nice with meadows that give views of the rugged adjacent country. The trail then drops several hundred feet to a beautiful old-growth silver fir forest on the shores of Chiwaukum Lake. From here we followed trail 1591 to the high basin that houses Larch Lake. We had to make a wet crossing of the North Fork Chiwaukum Creek before entering the wild and rugged Ewing Basin.

Larch Lake is surrounded by—yes, that's right—larches! A huge snowfield also graced the inlet of the lake, adding a white contrast to the yellow of the larches, red of the blueberry bushes and the gray of the sky—what a picture!

By this time it was snowing on us and accumulating. I scrambled to tiny Cup Lake which sits in a rocky cirque overlooking the entire basin below—absolutely breathtaking!

The wet and wind finally forced us to retreat—we had to climb back over McCue Ridge, but that helped us warm up. Nothing, however, felt as good as the heat of the wood stove that awaited us in our cabin! This hike is about 11


miles roundtrip and I highly recommend it.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/26.

✓  **LAKE ETHEL** (*USGS Chiwaukum Mtns*)—Our last day at High Camp finally saw the sun return, albeit slowly and with temperatures that were downright chilly! Still, we had a great hike and were able to pick huckleberries and blueberries fresh from the new snowfall!

We left camp and hiked the road to the Upper Roaring Creek trailhead. We followed trail 1584a over the ridge that separates Loch Eileen from Lake Ethel. This is a splendid trail with lots of views of the Chiwaukum Range, Nason Ridge and the peaks of the Lower Chiwawa valley as well.

The trail descends steeply off the ridge, enters a cool and lovely old-growth forest of mountain hemlock, and then meets up with trail 1585 just below Lake Ethel.

We explored the shores of the lake before retracing our route back to High Camp where the Hansons were waiting to take us back down to civilization. Sigh. This hike is about 8½ miles roundtrip.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 9/27.

✓  **LAKE SUSAN JANE, LAKE JOSEPHINE** (*USGS Stevens Pass*)—Camped at Nason Creek Campground on Lake Wenatchee. Nice facilities and warm showers! Headed up to Stevens Pass early.


We started south on the PCT up over the ski area and down the back side. Mushrooms were everywhere and on the way back we saw a family with grocery bags full of them. Blueberries (huckleberries?) were at their prime and Maria and Robert grazed their way to the lake. This is an interesting way to tour the ski area. Sure looks different without the snow.

The trail had a few muddy spots because of the heavy rain of the past two days. We met a troop of Boy Scouts and I got some groans out of them by saying wasn't it grand to go backpacking in September when the bugs were gone and the weather beautiful. They had spent two nights in pouring-down rain.

We met goat hunters with a pack train of horses heading down the trail. We had to *really* get out of the way to avoid being pushed over by the protruding packs. We had mist or heavy drizzle and fog the whole way to Josephine Lake.

To get to the shores of Josephine you go left at the intersection with Icicle Creek trail and PCT. You gain and then lose some elevation. This was the

poorest section of trail. About 9 miles round trip and 2400 feet elevation gain (almost as much back out as you have going in). Fall colors were beautiful and winter is on the way. Trail scale: 4+.—Edythe, Maria, and Robert, Aberdeen and Seattle, 9/28.

✓  **LAKE CAROLINE** (*USGS Cashmere Mtn*)—We left the trailhead at 7:10am in freezing temperatures. The trailhead starts out directly behind the kiosk. Being first in line, it was my duty to knock the snow off the bushes. Fortunately, this was dry, powdery snow.

A few feet after entering the Alpine Wilderness, we saw large bear tracks. We followed them for several minutes before the bear left the trail. The day was mostly overcast, with a few snow pellets at the high point of 6300 feet (110 feet higher than guide book says). The elevation gain is 200+ feet more than listed, also.

On the way back, we decided to avoid the (by now dry) trail and take the road. It was kinder to knees and feet but much longer. The sun came out. It was welcome but added no heat to the day. This trail was very muddy to Little 8-Mile Lake and snow-covered up to 12 inches deep above. The trail takes you through the Icicle Creek burn of 1995. We met 4 people along the trail. The 11-mile round trip took 6.5 hours. Trail scale: 3—Edythe, Jennifer, Judy, Rick, Robert from Aberdeen and Olympia, 10/12.

✓  **RACHEL LAKE** (*USGS Chikamin Pk*)—"Go east!" was the cry. "It hardly ever rains on the other side of the mountains!" At noon, we found ourselves at Rachel Lake trailhead along with 5 other cars. Above us was a beautiful patch of blue sky.


After nosing our car into the brush overgrowing the parking lot, we scampered up the wet trail. The blue sky was quickly gobbled up by nasty black clouds that poured on us. The trail turned into a river bed.

Then it slacked off. That rain made the five weed patches (avalanche chutes) along the trail just right to brush water on our pants so it would run down the inside of our gaiters and into our boots.

As the incline became steeper, the creeks rose and hail pelted our rain gear. It wasn't long before snowflakes started settling on us. They squished when they hit. You've heard them, the 38-degree type.

We ate at the falls (4050 feet) and observed the blanket of snow on the


peaks and ridges above us. As we headed back, we met a young man and his playful dog heading up for an overnight snow camp. We arrived back at the car wet and cold, but happy that we "swam" that hike.—Robert DeGraw, Kirkland.

✓  **PADDY GO EASY PASS** (*USGS The Cradle*)—We left home about 7:30am and by 8 we were sitting at the Bothell interchange, going nowhere. It was like waiting in line at the ferry. After that mess, no more problems.

The parking lot is a small, gouged-out spot at Fish Lake. We squeezed in. The trail goes very steeply uphill all the way to the pass. It had been brushed and logged, so no complaints. The pass was meadowy, had a stream, and a few late-blooming asters—a testament to a late-melting snow year.

When the trail started dropping steeply downhill we took the waytrail on the right which quickly led to round Sprite Lake. We climbed meadows to the ridge on the right for views and then contoured around to the right to the top of an unnamed peak overlooking the pass—and better views.

We looked straight down to Fish Lake and then across to Cathedral Peak and Mount Daniel with Mount Rainier in the south. Had a warm, sunny lunch with no bugs.—Ben and Nancy Brodie with Sparky the hiking Bouvier, Edmonds, 9/20.

✓  **DAVIS PEAK** (*USGS Davis Pk*)—We parked in the new lot about .2-mile down from the main road and walked another .2-mile of rough road past the old parking lot and across what looked like a brand new bridge across the Cle Elum River.

That was it for the downhill—now it was up on lots of switchbacks on beautiful trail. The views start after the first 1000 feet and never quit. The trail was through open forest and meadows and could be very hot. Today the heat felt good. No water at all after you cross the river.

We saw one disappointed hunter on the way up and afterward only three people as we descended. We followed the trail from the lookout site until it disappeared into the cliffs of the true summit of Davis which would be an easy scramble. We were content to eat lunch in the grassy meadow near the lookout.—Ben and Nancy Brodie with Sparky the hiking Bouvier, Edmonds, 9/21.

✓  **CATHEDRAL ROCK, DECEPTION PASS LOOP**

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS

REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

(USGS *The Cradle, Mt Daniel*)—My brother Bob, visiting from the UK, and I headed for Salmon la Sac. The road after Roslyn is excellent, plagued only by the seemingly ridiculous low speed limits. At Salmon la Sac we turned onto road 4330, which was very wash-boarded and full of potholes.

The first major obstacle was Scatter Creek. It was impossible to judge the depth of the water so we decided Bob would stand where he could watch and tell me the depth as the water came up the wheels. Even though it looked terrible the water didn't get above a third of the wheel depth. I got to the far side—but then had to back across to pick up Bob!

The old parking lot, near the river, has been closed and two new ones built, next to the road, with a nice heavy duty latrine.


We took trail 1345, extremely muddy in the lower reaches until we got to Squaw Lake. We soon ran into our hoar frost and then iced-over water on the trail, then snow. At 5600 feet, the intersection with PCT, we had 4 to 6 inches of base with a smattering of new.

The views of Cathedral were spectacular with all the new snow. My brother, a just-retired police photographer, was in his element, pictures and video. But we didn't dare linger. All the time I'm thinking, "We may have to turn back at one the next creek."

The creek that cuts a deep gorge from Daniel's flank was a torrent. I started upstream to find a safe place to cross, which I did. Bob having regained his lost youth decided to boulder hop. Unfortunately he slipped. He grabbed the boulder he'd slipped on, managed to pull himself up after going in the water up to his thighs. He said he didn't touch bottom and shuddered to think how deep the raging whirlpool was. Change of socks, spare long-johns and rain pants replaced his wet cord climbing breeches.

The trail from Cathedral descends from 5600 feet to about 3800 feet then climbs back up to Deception Pass at 4500 feet. By the time we reached Deception Pass we hoped that none of the creek crossings would force a retreat. It was just too far back.

Loop trip was 7 hours and 7 minutes, too fast to enjoy the views on nice day, but this was not a nice day.—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 10/6.

 **JOLLY MOUNTAIN** (USGS *Davis Pk*)—The weather was perfect so we decided to do Jolly Mountain the hard way. The trailhead is in an unmarked horse campground just

before Salmon la Sac guard station. We were the only car there.

The first 2½ miles were through a clearcut. We could hear chainsaws but couldn't tell where they were logging and hoped we weren't headed right for it. There was a large stream right below the Painter Creek intersection and after that no more water.

It was a very long, steep mile between Painter Creek intersection and Sasse Ridge but the increasingly good views of Mount Stuart urged us on. At Sasse Ridge we were out of the trees and into the meadows. The final ascent consists of walking in a 3-foot-deep trench gouged out by motorbikes. Someone had painted the summit rocks green with black lettering saying "Jolly Mountain summit."


Our views were less than perfect because of smoke from slash burning. A hiker who arrived at the summit shortly after us said the air even smelled burned. He was the only person we saw all day.—Ben and Nancy Brodie with Sparky the hiking Bouvier, Edmonds, 9/22.

ENCHANTMENTS—Permits are required for overnight use from 6/15 through 10/15. Reservations can be made up to 180 days in advance of trip date. To make reservations call Reservations Northwest at 888-953-7677, between 8am and 5pm Monday through Friday. The fee is \$1 per person per day. Maximum group size is 8.

There is currently snow above Lake Viviane.—Ranger, 10/15.

SOUTH CENTRAL



 **SILVER PEAK** (USGS *Lost Lk*)—Goran and I drove up to Windy Pass and parked near the PCT. We hiked the logging roads, taking the first left, then ignoring the spurs until we got to the turn-around. Our normal



White River.

Grant Myers

ski route would be to go right around the steep wooded area, but there in front of us was an obviously heavily used trail. It led to a lovely little lake that doesn't show on the map. We then followed the trail around the west side until it petered out.

There was signs of an animal track going straight up the slope through the woods. We followed it up, back and forth around the cliffs, across snow covered ledges using anything we could hang onto for security.

We eventually worked our way to the top and on to the talus where we had a snack. At this point was a game trail going up to the northwest ridge, which we joined at the 5100 foot level. From there it was a simple matter to follow the route to the summit.

I'm not recommending this as a route to follow. It makes much more sense to keep to the right of this cliff and follow the ski route.

Time from car with one break was 2 hours 18 minutes to the summit. There we had a really long lunch and soaked up the sun and views. The only downer was the incredible amount of pollution west of North Bend. The Olympics held their heads valiantly above the orange soup. We followed the regular trail back to the PCT at the base of Tinkham and back to the car.—Fred Redman, Woodinville, 10/16.

SHEEP LAKE (USGS *Norse Pk, White River Park*)—This is Troop 85's traditional fall hike to break in the greenhorns who join us the previous spring. However, the threat of rain kept away all but the hardy as we walked the easy 2-mile trail in improving weather. Fresh snow covered the slopes above the lake as we pitched our three tents in the large campsite 30 yards from the south shore.

Clearly the snow was going to stop us from trying the Class 4 route on Cupalo Rock so we left our rope and gear in the tents and opted for Plan B: a day hike to Upper Crystal Lake by way of the Crest Trail and a spur trail down into the basin above Crystal Mountain ski area.

At the lake we ate lunch and spied a cross-country route over a sub-ridge that would take us directly back to Sheep's shore. Donald, Spencer, and Stephan were game and so were Larry and I, so we took a straight line up to the low point in the ridge. From here Sheep Lake looked beautiful.

The boys pulled ahead as we made our way down the steep grassy slopes and back to camp just 3 hours after leaving it. A nap was in order before dinner, but the boys wouldn't wait so they cranked up the stove. Larry and I, along with Spencer, enjoyed spaghetti later on.

On Sunday we awoke to clouds and misty fog. After scrambled eggs we got in some rock climbing practice on a rock rib just a stone's throw from the lake. The easy Class 5 moves were made harder by the wet rock, but being top-roped provided the security we needed. Soon we set up a rappel and were back at our tents. Forty minutes later we were back at the van.

We all enjoyed Paul Simon's "Graceland" and CCR on the way home. Who says Boy Scouting isn't fun?—Mark Owen, Shoreline, with Larry Rudolph, Spencer King, Stephen Wicks and Donald, Seattle, 9/27-28.

"CHINOOK PEAK" to YAKIMA PEAK (USGS *White River Park and Chinook Pass*)—Peak 6904 ("Chinook Peak") is 1.8 miles north of Chinook Pass and unnamed, surprisingly, on current maps. It is a very worthy summit, the highest peak on the Cascade Crest between Chikamin Peak and Old Snowy—quite a stretch! Other than Silver King (and Queen) and Fife Peak, it is higher than all other summits between Puget Sound and the Columbia River from Snoqualmie Pass to Chinook Pass.

This was a mystery trip offered by Jim Prichard who had spotted it on one of his many (70) summit successes in

Mount Rainier National Park. Jim led us here from a parking lot on Highway 410 just beyond Chinook Pass (5432 feet).

We picked up the PCT here, following it north almost 2 miles to Sheep Lake on icy snow where we cut west cross-country to the south ridge of Chinook Peak on the Cascade Divide. Passing a couple of yellowish snail-looking rock formations, we were on top with no difficulties about 1.6 hours after leaving the car. It's a great perch, with views from Hood to Baker.

Following south along the crest, we dropped into the basin above Deadwood Lakes and climbed "Deadwood Peak," 6280+ feet, from the northeast.

From Deadwood, we negotiated a steepish slope down to a pleasant basin northwest of Yakima Peak. The snowy ground here was riddled with elk and goat prints. Yakima was scrambled and descended back to the car.

On the way down we ran into a group of four Korean tourists who decided to wander to the top of Yakima Peak from their car. They asked, "What is the name of that big snowy mountain over there?"

"That's Mount Rainier," we told them, with a smile.—John Roper, Bellevue, 10/1.

NACHES PEAK LOOP (USGS *Chinook Pass*)—Coby, Bill and I met Ted and Martha for a hike on the Naches Loop at Chinook Pass. It was a gloriously clear day after heavy rain earlier in the week.

This is a nice 4.5-mile loop, which provides a fabulous view of Mount Rainier and great views of Mount Adams and other Cascade peaks. Coby and Bill spotted the lookout building on top of Shriener Peak. Martha picked a pint of blueberries and Ted entertained Jane with a narrative history of points of Vancouver Island. A good time was had by all.

We parked one car at the far end of Chinook Pass and the other car at the other end of the loop to avoid having to walk on a stretch of the highway.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 9/20.

COWLITZ ROCKS (USGS *Mt Rainier East*)—Leave Paradise parking lot 8am. All snow beyond 6200 feet. At 10:35, pass site of no-longer-existing ice caves.

A patchy veneer of new snow covers old dirty consolidated snow. It conceals weak snow bridges and where it fills in hollows are large voids underneath.

At 11:45, reach divide overlooking Muddy Fork of the Cowlitz, Little Tahoma, Cowlitz and Ingraham Gla-

ciers. I don't know of a better view of Little Tahoma available to non-climbers. Lunch time.

At 1:15, dump big camera at saddle and ascend Cowlitz Rock. Get to summit ridge, good views, but don't think it prudent to attempt summit alone; very loose rock.

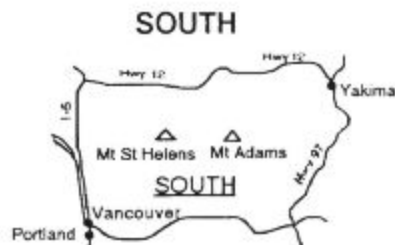
Return to Paradise at 4pm. About a 7.5 mile round trip with 2000 feet of elevation gain. Ski or trekking poles or ice axe helpful; it's necessary to side-hill at times to avoid weak snow bridges and thin layers of snow over boulder fields.—Paul G. Schaufler, Olympia, 9/23.

SUMMERLAND (USGS *White River Park, Mt Rainier East*)—Coby Farnham joined Bill and me for a hike to Summerland on this clear day. We were amazed at the sight of the avalanche that took out the bridge about 3 miles up the trail. There was substantial snow and debris in the gully leading down to the bridge.

Just past the detour around the fallen bridge we had to cross a large snow-and-ice field, still frozen in September!

After reaching Summerland, we had lunch and lazed near the creek, taking in the amazing view of Little Tahoma and Mount Rainier.—Jane Habegger, Olympia, 9/21.

MOUNT RAINIER NATL PARK—Stevens Canyon, Mowich Lake and White River campground roads will close 10/14 or snow. Chinook Pass will close 11/28 or snow. Cayuse Pass will close 12/8 or snow.—Ranger, 10/6.



DRY CREEK, TRAPPER CREEK LOOP (USGS *Termination Pt, Bare Mtn*)—Heather and I did a 14-mile loop on one of the wettest days of the year! It was a great hike that gave us many opportunities to practice creek fording techniques.

We began our hike at the Trapper Creek Wilderness trailhead near Government Mineral Springs. It was pouring from the start. We hiked the flat, easy and enjoyable Dry Creek trail 194 to its junction with the Big Hollow trail 158. We got our feet wet crossing Bour-

BACKCOUNTRY NEWS


REPORTS AND CONDITIONS

bon Creek. The rains had pushed its level to about 18 inches deep.

Big Hollow is a nice trail with old growth forests and a steep climb to the saddle between Observation Peak and the Sister Rocks. We decided to take the rugged but beautiful Trapper Creek trail 192 back to the trailhead. This trail traverses the heart of the wilderness, one of the few uncut watersheds in the Pinchot. There are some giant Douglas-firs along the way. The trail also offers nice views of Trapper Creek Falls. There are log crossings for both traverses of Trapper Creek but not for some of the tributaries.

We had a difficult time fording the creek near the Deer Cut-off that was now waist deep due to the run-off from the heavy rainfall. We crashed up the small canyon and ultimately found a safe place to cross. What an adventure. On this particular hike I felt as though I truly hiked Trapper Creek—not the trail system, but the waterways!—Craig Romano, Seattle, 10/4.


OREGON

 **PCT, Wahtum Lake north** (*Mark Hatfield Wilderness*)—Four intrepid volunteers armed with loppers, mattocks, shovels, rock rakes and Pulaskis set out from Wahtum on the PCT. We are members of the Mount Hood Chapter of the PCT Association and this is the fourth time this year that we have worked on this area of the PCT in the Mark Hatfield Wilderness (formerly the Columbia Wilderness).

We brushed out and widened a quarter-mile section and can now affirm that this 10-mile portion of the trail is in good shape. But it's never-ending job and we'll be back at it again next season.

If this sounds like a plug for volunteers, you're right. To volunteer on the PCT in the Mount Hood area call Steve Queen at 503-639-5699. For other areas of the PCT from Canada to the Mexican border, call 888-PCTRAIL.—Jack Konner, Beaverton, 9/27.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

 **ASULKAN VALLEY TRAIL** (*Glacier Natl Park*)—Heather and I decided to take a five day trip to one of the Northwest's best kept secrets, British Columbia's Glacier National Park in the Columbia Mountains. Mention this park and nearly everyone will say, "Oh, Montana." This park, one of Canada's oldest national parks, remains unknown to many area hikers.


We camped for four nights at the park's Illecillewaet Campground located very close to Roger's Pass on the Trans-Canada highway. This campground is a hiker's dream—only 60 sites with 8 great trails radiating from it. The scenery is spectacular! Price—\$13 Canadian (includes firewood); National Park pass is also required (I have an annual—\$70 Canadian). Sites are usually easy to find in the morning.

Two warnings—this area is wet, receiving 1 day of precipitation every two days. It rained for several hours all five days we were here. This is grizzly country; although there were recent reports, we saw none.

The Asulkan Valley trail was our first in the Glacier backcountry. This trail, like most here, is short with a lot of elevation gain (6.5 km, 1000 meter gain—or 4.3 miles and 3300 feet).

We crossed the incredible aftermath of one of last winter's avalanches. I imagine snow will remain in this spot all year this year. The trail follows Asulkan Brook, then begins climbing, ultimately up the lateral moraine of the Asulkan Glacier.


The trail ends on a rocky promontory above the valley and below the glacier. With proper equipment, you can continue.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 7/23.

 **AVALANCHE CREST** (*Glacier Natl Park*)—This trail was probably our favorite. The official trail is only 4.2 kilometers, yet in that distance it gains 800 meters. Beyond the

official trail you can follow a rudimentary path (and we did) through meadows and to snowfields to the top of the crest, probably another 2.5 kilometers.

Avalanche Crest is a high rugged ridge separating the Asulkan and Illecillewaet valleys. The view is incredible. You will be right above the "Great Glacier," the Illecillewaet itself.

On our hike/scramble the weather was crazy. The sun blinded us, the rain doused us and at the summit it snowed on us.—Craig Romano, Seattle, 7/24.

 **GREAT GLACIER TRAIL** (*Glacier Natl Park*)—This trail is probably the most popular in the Illecillewaet area. The trail is 5 kilometers long, following the Illecillewaet River to its source, the "Great Glacier." Decades ago the trail terminated right at the snout of the glacier, but since then the blue ice has receded almost 2 kilometers. Heather opted to enjoy the striations from the trail's terminus while I struck out on a course to scramble the exposed and smooth rock to the toe of the glacier.

I was unsuccessful, attaining only about 3/4 the distance. This is a tough course to follow due to the many drops and dead-ends that come up on you by surprise. It was the rain, however, that forced me to abort my goal. The exposed rock became too slippery and slick for my comfort. Nevertheless, the trail offers wonderful views of the Glacier from a distance, nice old-growth forests, and the sight and sound of the

BULLETIN BOARD

Notices on this Bulletin Board are free to subscribers and may be "posted" for up to three months. Commercial advertisers are welcome to contact the Pack & Paddle office for ad rates.

FOR SALE—Camp Trails Vagabond pack in new condition (used on four urban hikes). The pack converts to a suitcase with a zippered flap which can be used to enclose the hip and shoulder straps. Will not fit a person over 6 feet. Perfect for carry-on air travel and light mountain hiking. Original price was \$150. Will take \$50. 206-644-4007 (Seattle).

FOLBOT KAYAK FOR SALE—two person folding kayak with sailing rig. Very stable, good condition. Paddles, spray skirts, cushions, etc, all included, \$850.

Also very strong kayak or canoe

portage carrier, \$100. 360-385-0202 (Port Townsend).

FOR SALE—Book: last 40 copies of *North Cascades Highway Guide*, 2nd edition. 63 pages; 30 trail descriptions. \$4.50 (includes postage and handling). Fred Darvill, 1819 Hickox Rd, Mount Vernon WA 98274.

FOUND—Tent fly on Mildred Lakes waytrail, 9/21. Identify to claim. Call Joe at 360-871-0291 (Port Orchard).

FOUND—On 8/14, a roll of exposed slide film alongside creek, about 1½ miles up from Laughingwater Creek trailhead, Mount Rainier Natl Park. Identify to claim. 425-481-8139.

FOUND—Jacket near Ingalls Lake. Identify to claim. Call 360-754-7203.

CHUCK GUSTAFSON

Cathedral Provincial Park

—LITTLE-KNOWN IN WASHINGTON, THIS BC PARK IS A GEM—

Cathedral Provincial Park, little known in the US, is a gem much appreciated by our fellow Canadian hikers. Located almost due north of Winthrop and road-accessible from Highway 3 west of Keremeos, Cathedral provides relatively easy access to high altitude base camps on the sometimes-sunny side of the Cascade crest.

While snow camping at Spanish Camp in the Pasayten Wilderness in 1991 (see *Pack & Paddle*, March 1992, page 11), we skied to within 2 miles of the Park's border. I was intrigued by the views from the US side and organized a ski trip to Cathedral Provincial Park in 1994. Hampered first by a thin snow pack and then by blizzard conditions, we were only able to sample the area around Cathedral Lakes.

I knew I wanted to come back, however, especially when I discovered that the Cathedral Lakes Resort would shuttle hikers to the core area at 6800 feet. Having suffered carrying a 75-pound pack and skis up the 10 mile road and 4000 feet of elevation, \$55 CDN for a round trip ride seemed like a bargain. The road is owned by the Park, but use is restricted to Resort and Park ranger vehicles only.

The Park was founded in 1968 and expanded in 1972 from the core area around Cathedral Rim and Lakes to its current size of over 13,000 acres. The Cathedral Lakes Resort predates the formation of the Park and owns a large piece of property on Lake Quiniscoe at the end of the road.

In 1993 a major restoration of trails and vegetation was initiated. Seventy campsites are situated at three camps on the lakes in the core area, plus several camps in the greater park.

Camping is allowed only in designated campsites. Camping permits are required at \$2 CDN per night during the high season. Sites at Quiniscoe Lake are filled quickly and experienced campers have someone run over to the Ranger station to reserve a spot as soon as the van gets them to the top. These

sites are popular because they have picnic tables and fire pits (the only place in the Park where fires are allowed). The Park furnishes firewood, but it must be split.

All campgrounds have sawdust-lev-eled tent sites, food cages and very clean outhouses. There are usually no bears in the core area, but in the spring of 1996 a bear got interested in the two pigs kept by the Resort (a pig is roasted every Thanksgiving) and the kitchen sloop behind the Resort's kitchen. He hadn't been seen for quite a while, but we were cautious with our food.

A PICK-UP TRUCK SHUTTLE

We drove from Seattle the day before our scheduled shuttle. After a cheap but good dinner in the K Cafe in Keremeos, we drove north on Highway 3A. We stayed at the Olde Osprey Inn, a bed-and-breakfast run by Joy Whitley. We can highly recommend this interesting log chalet overlooking Yellow Lake.

After an excellent breakfast, we headed out early for the Cathedral Lakes Resort Base Camp and our 10am shuttle reservation.

All the cars are parked in a locked and gated lot on the south side of the Ashnola River. Riders and gear are

loaded in 4-wheel drive Suburbans and pickup trucks. (Since most of the packs are put in the back of open pickup trucks, I would recommend completely bagging your pack to avoid road dust.) Our driver had been working at the Resort since 1991 and during the winter was a jazz musician.

This was a Canadian holiday weekend. Thirty-eight riders went up in our group and another 30 were scheduled for later in the day.

The weather had been cold rain and snow during the previous 24 hours. Waiting out a rain squall on the Ranger's porch, we were soon very cold in the damp 39 degree temperature. As the rain eased up we shuttled our packs on hardened trail 1 mile to a campsite on Pyramid Lake, 6800 feet. No fires or picnic tables here, but we are away from the hustle of the Resort and the noise of its generator and traffic. Here we feel like we're on a "real" backpack trip.

Finished with our camp setup, we hiked to Lake of the Woods and then on to Quiniscoe Lake. Almost every campsite was full. Visiting the campsite of our 1994 ski trip brought back memories of skiing on ice, high winds and blowing snow. We certainly shouldn't complain about this weather.

September 1, our first full day, we finally got out of the sack at 7:30. Not hearing my watch alarm was a convenient excuse. Our plan was to hike to the summit of Lakeview Mountain by way of Goat Lake in a counterclockwise loop.

The temperature was perfect for hiking and there were no bugs. We met only a few other hikers as we strolled along beautiful Goat Creek. Everything was lush and wet, atypical for September.

1996 was a very heavy snow year. There had been 8 to 9 feet of snow at the lakes in June when the Resort opened and they had to plow the last 2 miles of road. The Ranger had to use a boat as a sled to ferry supplies to his cabin and Quiniscoe Lake was frozen until July 13. This was a real contrast



Alice at Goat Lake, with Lakeview Mountain in back.

Chuck Gustafson

to 1994 when there was almost no snow for my ski trip.

Goat Lake is in a very rugged cirque surrounded with a ring of impressive peaks and ridges. Spots of snow still lingered on the slopes.

Sitting on a rock, we nibbled our cookies and banana bread while watching fly fishermen casting. Leaving the lake we headed down the trail and crossed Goat Creek at a sign and cairns for Lakeview Mountain.

Our goal was the saddle between Lakeview Mountain and the Boxcar, but we quickly lost the tread in overgrown, wet and marshy meadows. Small creeks spouted everywhere, more like June. Then we found heavy brush.

This was supposed to be a "fun" trip with no bushwhacking. Retreating to upper Goat Lake (now a marsh), we found a sunny rock behind a small moraine, protecting us from the cold east wind. It looked windy and cold on top of Lakeview Mountain. Too late to do Lakeview by the standard trail, we headed back to camp. The day's totals were 5.5 hours, 1000 feet and 6.5 miles.

ALONG CATHEDRAL RIM

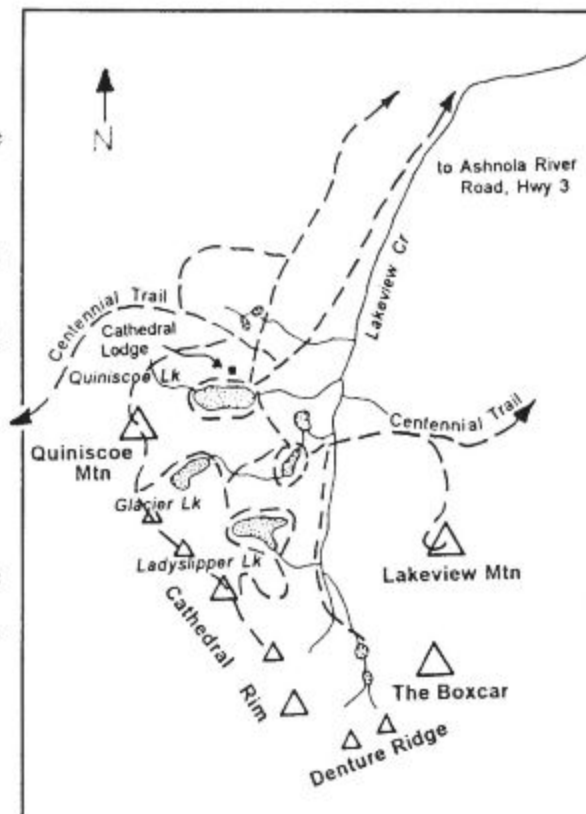
We awoke early on September 2 after a clear cold night. The sky was clear and there was no wind. With a weather window in an unsettled weather pattern, we decided today was the time to hike the Cathedral Rim.

Leaving camp at 8:15, we headed up the Lady Slipper trail. Frost on the trail

and great views of Lakeview Mountain and the Rim as we climbed above the tree line. Gaining 700 feet to 7500 feet we topped out on a gentle ridge and then dropped 200 feet to spectacular Lady Slipper Lake. The Lake was a beautiful blue set below the Rim and Pyramid Peak. Warming in the sun we took off our poly bottoms and put on our sun screen, hats and shirts, a first (and the last) on this trip.

The trail runs clockwise around the lake to its outlet, then goes through larch and boulder fields with tiny brooks flowing from the rocks lining the trail. Good views from here of the Goat Creek drainage and the Rim. This was followed by a very steep loose section with rough tread, almost a scramble. At the gentle ridge top we took a long break and met our first hikers of the day. One more steep loose section brought us to the Rim at 8570 feet for a total gain of 1900 feet.

We turned south through "Stone City" (many large rounded, wind- and water-sculpted rocks) on a cairned route which was barely a trail in many spots. Good views of the North Cascades, Cathedral Peak and Spanish Camp area in the US. The clouds were massing to the west. Saw "Smokey



the Bear," a rock pinnacle that, if viewed long enough, looks like . . . you guessed it.

Then we reversed and headed north on the Rim trail. Good views to the west and north of the Cascades and down into the lakes in Cathedral Basin. We met many people doing the Rim counter-clockwise, but no one going our direction. The tread is very rough and obscure, but well marked with cairns. This is a spectacular high alpine traverse. We saw several ptarmigans. Met the last hikers just past the intersection with the Glacier Lake trail.

It was getting late and looking like rain to the west. At 4pm we started up Quiniscoe Mountain's boulder field. This was a very rough, Class 2 scramble to the summit despite its description as a "trail." At 4:30, in poor light, the rain started in earnest. Buttoning up for rain on top of Quiniscoe Mountain we both realized that we were very tired.

The down trail soon turned into another nasty scramble on a wet and slippery boulder field. Finally we found good trail and grade and our pace picked up. The rain let up as we completed the loop; we reached camp at 6:15.

The day's totals were 11 miles, 3400 feet and 10 hours. This hike/scramble is a true classic and one of the most unique hikes I've ever done. It definite-



Lady Slipper Lake.

Chuck Gustafson



Chuck Gustafson

Looking east from Cathedral Rim to Quiniscoe Lake and Cathedral Lakes Resort.

ly deserves a 5 star rating. It is *not* the place to be in bad weather.

NOT BAD FOR A FOUL DAY

September 3. After raining on and off all night, we finally got out of the sack, at 7:45. As our campsite neighbors headed out for the Rim we felt fortunate to have hiked the Rim yesterday. After a leisurely breakfast it started raining again and we finally admitted that Lakeview Mountain was not going to happen.

At 2pm the rain let up a little and we decided to hike around Quiniscoe Lake and then on to Glacier Lake in a loop. Fresh coyote scat on the trail and no other hikers as we looped around Quiniscoe Lake.

A very nice waterfall at the end of the lake is beside a rough trail which climbs steeply to the Rim. At the west end of Quiniscoe Lake we encountered a boulder field with dozens of examples of "cairn art." Alice added another one for us.

Shortly after starting up the trail to Glacier Lake the rain started to pour down followed by heavy lightning on the Rim. We sheltered in a safe grove of trees waiting for a break. Then the snow started, at first lightly and then heavily, graupel and then big wet flakes.

We could see snow accumulating on the Rim. It must be terrible up there and we are worried about our neighbors. So much for our last hike.

On the way back to camp we stopped and visited with the Ranger, alerting him that our campsite neighbors were now on the Rim. He had done a search last week for an experienced climber who got lost and ended up traveling 27 miles. Just before camp, we met our neighbors heading for the lodge to dry out. They got caught on the way down from the Rim and reported lots of lightning around them and about 2 inches of new snow at the Rim. The day's totals were 3+ miles, 500 feet and 3 hours, not bad for a foul day.

SNOW ON THE TENT

September 4. It cleared during the night with a half moon and stars. A very cold morning with frozen rain and snow on the tent and a skim of ice in our water bottles and the wash pail. The temperature is about 28 degrees. During the night the barometer fell some more, so it looks like we are getting out at the right time. The sky looks very sullen. Even after breakfast it is still cold.

At 11:15 we headed out with the first load and by 12:15 we had moved all our packs to the Resort. While waiting for the Suburbans we observed the fattest ground squirrels we had ever seen watching us attentively for a chance to steal our lunch. They were so round they could barely sit up. Storm clouds to the west looked very threatening, but tonight we stay in a Best Western.

Then on to Jasper, the Canadian Rockies and another adventure.

MORE NOTES FROM THE RANGER

The Park's biggest problem is people who bring in dogs and then are abusive when confronted by the Ranger. Illegal mountain bikes are also a problem. Their procedure is to confiscate them, fine the owner and require that the bike be trucked out.

Hunting is allowed outside the core area and there are two cattle grazing allotments that predate the formation of the Park.

MORE INFORMATION

Okanagan District Office
Box 399
Summerland BC V0H 1Z0
Canada
250-494-6500

Cathedral Lakes Resort
Site 4 Comp 8
Slocan Park BC V0G 2E0
Canada
888-255-4453

MAPS AND BOOKS

Topo 1:50,000,
Ashnola River, 92 H/1

103 Hikes in SW British Columbia, Mary and David Macaree (The Mountaineers); numbers 100, 101 and 102.

△

Chuck Gustafson, of Seattle, has lived in the Pacific Northwest for so long that he thinks that a forecast of "80% chance of rain" means a good day.

JOHN ROPER

Shawatum Mountain and Mount Brice

—FOLLOWING HENRY CUSTER'S 1859 ROUTE IN THE CANADIAN SKAGIT—

For a dozen years or so, the goal of climbing every map-named summit in the Skagit River Drainage has been rattling around in the back of my brain, a concept fueled, I'm sure, by the pleasant persuasions of the id, "that part of the psyche which is regarded as the reservoir of the instinctual drives and the source of psychic energy..." (Webster)

My hometown is Newhalem, a small, neat company town on the right bank of the Skagit River in Whatcom County, and the heart of what was to become the North Cascades National Park. The rushing, powerful, liquid sound of the Skagit is the white noise of my id.

The map-makers have given us about 250 named Skagit River summits just in Washington. Doing these US peaks is proving to be the easier part, for me. It's the 33 named peaks up north in the Canadian Skagit that are giving me trouble.

Why? First, it's a long drive (8 hours, roundtrip, from Seattle) just to position and return from these British Columbia peaks. Second, you can't get anyone to go with you.

Why? First, it's a long drive. Second, because no one has ever heard of these peaks. Third, once you have suckered someone into going up to do a Canadian Skagit peak with you, they never want to return because of the lousy weather, the lousy rock, the lousy mosquitoes, the lousy brush, and the many lousy 5000-foot vertical gain approaches.

Imagine my glee then, when totally out of the blue, Mitch Blanton from Bellingham wrote me, and suggested that we get together to climb Shawatum Mountain, of all things, just north of Ross Lake in the Canadian Skagit. I called him back that night.

We rendezvoused the week before for a "feel 'em out" climb of Goblin Mountain, up the North Fork of the Skykomish. Mitch proved to be a perfect climbing partner. Lean, but not mean. Strong, but not overpowering. A good guy, full of energy and questions. And

he had climbed, as the newspapers say, "almost every peak in the state." He handled Goblin's crux (two mantle moves, followed by a lay-back, quick-three-step to a horse-mount-leg-over) with impressive finesse.

It had been six years since I'd last visited the Skagit source, so I was excited, if not fully rested, when my alarm went off in Bellevue at 4am on June 14, 1997, for the climb of Shawatum and its northern neighbor, Mount Brice.

Mitch was ready on my arrival in Bellingham at 6am. We crossed the border at Sumas, then followed Canada's Highway 1 east to the Silver-Flood Exit 168, shortly before Hope. There we found the Silver-Skagit Road turning south just before crossing the seasonally significant Silverhope Creek.

Along the way, I handed Mitch an envelope from my "Canadian Skagit" packet, which contained the "Report of Henry Custer, Assistant of Reconnaissance made in 1859 over the Routes in the Cascade Mountains in the Vicinity of the 49th Parallel."

In it was an account of the first climb of Shawatum Mountain by Henry Custer and his crew done 138 years ago!

This report was discovered at the US National Archives in Washington, DC in the early 1980s by Harry Majors, an

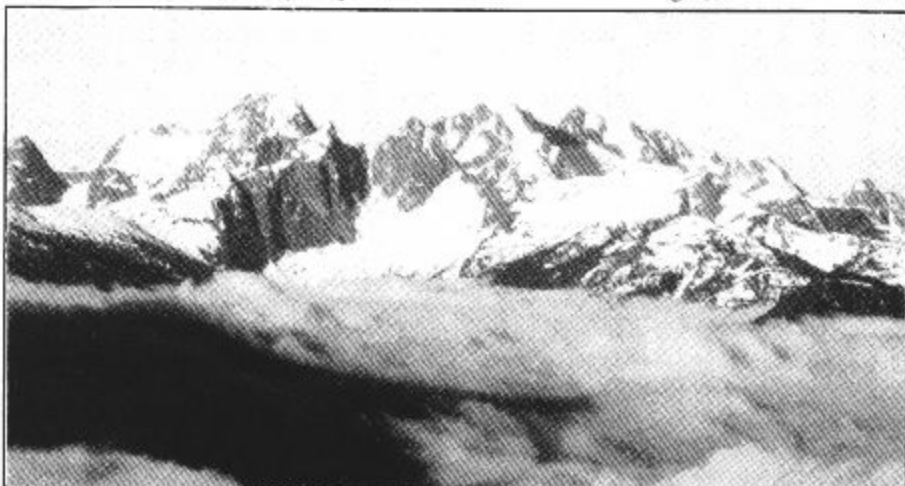
exacting North Cascades historian/scholar.

Majors meticulously and accurately analyzed Custer's cryptic notes and pieced together the 1859 routes of this Swiss-American topographer as he surveyed along the 49th parallel from Sumas-Lynden to the Skagit River (now Ross Lake) to establish the US-Canada boundary.

Twenty-six miles from the start of the dusty Silver-Skagit Road toward Ross Lake, Mitch and I finally crossed the Skagit River on a one-lane bridge, where we enjoyed an impressive view southeast to Shawatum.

In another 1.7 miles on the left, we found a day use turnoff that *was* the start of a now overgrown logging road up Shawatum Creek. It is immediately blocked by a berm at elevation 1700 feet. This point is about 8 miles north of the border and 200 miles from Bellevue. We parked and packed up here, swatting at the mosquitoes, which were just as bad as I'd remembered them from past trips to this area.

Henry Custer stood at near this same spot on August 24, 1859. He arrived here from civilization by way of a route up the Chilliwack River, over Whatcom Pass (where he described the view of Mount Challenger), and down Little



The Chilliwacks from "Mitchly Mountain"—left to right, Tombstone, Spickard, Newts Tongue, Custer.

John Roper

Beaver Creek to an established, manned astronomical "Station Skagit" on the river, south of the border.

With two natives, Custer paddled north up the Skagit in a canoe from camp, while his assistants, Mitchly and Williams, took seven natives and followed a trail upstream. At a logjam a few miles into Canada, the parties reunited. Here Custer writes:

It was now my intention to send 2 Indians in charge of the canoe back to the astro. Station Skagit, and to proceed with the rest of the party along the trail to a point from which one of the peaks on the ridge East of us could be easiest ascended.

I selected ... Shawatan Peak as being the highest and most isolated peak which would promise from its peculiar position the most extensive view. We pushed on very briskly and after a few hours travel, reached a good camping place on the river where the trail passes over the back of a Mt spur, descending down from Shawatan Mt which lays opposite to our camp.

This spur forms here a bold promontory on the River bank and presents an excellent opportunity to ascend the above-mentioned mountain...

[The] next morning we started our journey (Mitchly, myself, and an Indian) by following the summit of the leading spur already mentioned. We found the ascent

easy and progressive until we reached a locality, where the Mt sides were covered with extensive patches of Hookle berries, the largest & finest, of peculiar brownish-blue color, that could be seen. They are of excellent flavor.

To withstand the temptation of a large tract literally covered with these delicious berries goes beyond the moral strength of a white man, much less that of an Indian. To halt & eat & to eat & halt is all you can do under these circumstances, and if, during an hour or two, you can manage to bring yourself ... through one of these belts where these berries grow exclusively, you may say you have done well...

The ascent, when having passed the timber limit, becomes somewhat steep. Still in the main no difficulties were encountered to reach the rocky isolated summit. The bar.[ometer] indicated here a height of about 6500 ft.

Beyond occasional patches of snow, the summit was free of it, the temperature cool & pleasant. Owing to the altitude and isolated position of the peak, the view was very fine in all directions. To the West, the rocky and steep summits of the Chuchchech Mtns [Spickard-Redoubt-Custer area—the Chilliwacks] were the most prominent feature in the landscape before us...

To the South the high and icy summit of No Komoekan Mt [Jack] is visible. To the North, almost in Range with it, lay the steep and rocky cliffs of Hozomeen Mt, rising far beyond the average height of the ridge in which it is situated. From here excellent bearings, determining the longitudes of these peaks, can be taken. To the SE, a vast sea of peaks, ridges, and valleys is observable, apparently thrown about in utter confusion.

...The view would have been still finer and more extensive, but the country was shrouded partially in a smoky, hazy air, due to the excessive fires in the River valleys, and many peaks & Mts were only dimly visible.

After a few hours descent, we finally reached our camp again, greatly exhausted by heat & fatigue.

After Mitch read this passage to me in the car, I had a hard time not thinking of him as Mitchly, and I tried to imagine what it was like here in Henry Custer's time.

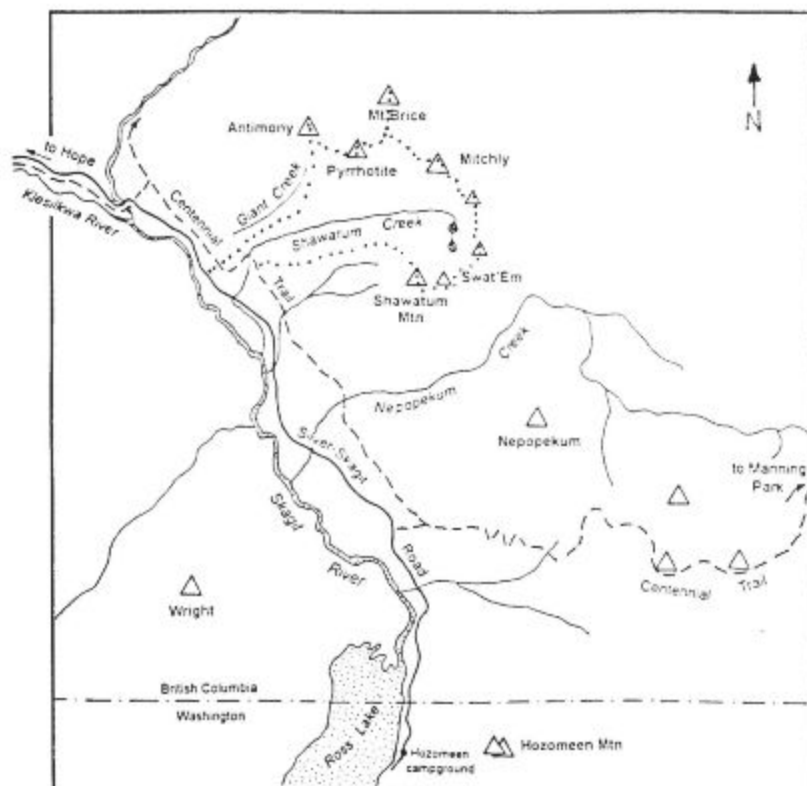
Our goal was to do a clockwise circum-perambulation of Shawatum Creek, first climbing sub-summits of Mount Brice, north of the creek, then Brice (7099 feet), then circling south to Shawatum Mountain (7081 feet), finally exiting out Shawatum's west ridge, perhaps the same ridge Custer described. (See map.)

From the car park, we took the left choice of roads. The Centennial Trail (1871-1971) was crossed, first on the left (hard to spot), then the right, then the road began switch-backing into Giant Creek, higher than either the 100-foot contour interval, Canadian quad *Skagit River (92 H/3)*, or Beckey's *International Border Area North Cascades* map shows. After alder wars on the road, we finally ended up in Giant Creek at about 3000 feet.

As we climbed up this wash, I reminded Mitch, who was in the lead here, of Custer's wise 1859 advice:

To ascend a mountain in the easiest and best way is just as much a matter of good judgement as anything else. The following rules should guide travelers in the mountains. If starting from the foot of a range ... of mountains you wish to penetrate ... always select the largest stream arising in this range ... and follow its course.

If however your intentions are simply to ascend a peak on the foot of which you stand, always select the longest leading spur following the direction of its summit. It will secure you an easy and gentle ascent. Never select a ravine or water-course coming from the peak to be ascended; if you should follow one of these, you will find many difficulties in your way, consisting in sudden drops, dense bush and brush vegetation, and an increasing steepness, sometimes amount-





John Roper

Mitch takes in the view from Peak 6340, including Nepopekun and Hozomeen Mountains.

ing to impracticability as you get nearer the summit.

These rules I had reason to find it well to always adhere to during all of my extensive travels in the Mts, in ascending to as well as descending from a summit.

So we left the messy "dense bush and brush vegetation" of Giant Creek and gained the ridge to the right. The route opened up nicely as we ascended the ridge past a mining claim at 4200 feet.

Instead of fat "Hookle berries" to tempt and delight us, we were besieged by a phenomenal herd of hungry mosquitoes. Blurred clouds of these beasts hovered about us as we hurried along, swinging at them with our caps.

We scrambled for the lead position, since the person in front was perceived to have about three fewer bugs around him. Mitch swallowed one sideways, and I thought for a while that no amount of coughing could dislodge one stuck in my right lung.

Climbing shirtless in the heat, Mitch offered the skeeters free lunch, as they

regarded his Deet insect repellent as simply the appetizer soup. Nearly-interconnecting patterned welts adorned his shoulders.

We persevered to a pleasant double-summit at 6400 feet which we dubbed "Antimony Mountain" (300-foot prominence) at the head of Antimony Creek, defined by Webster as "a silvery white brittle metallic chemical ... found only in combination; used in alloys with other metals to harden them. Compounds of antimony are used in medicines, pigments, matches, and fireproofing; symbol Sb."

Without much celebration, we continued east on snow to the local high-point, an unnamed 6602-foot peak with a rather hefty prominence of 902 feet.

We referred to this as "Pyrrhotite Peak," again after a nearby creek draining into Shawatum Creek. Per Webster: "any of several magnetic, bronze-colored, lustrous sulfides of iron, often containing small amounts of copper, cobalt, and nickel." Here we stopped for a brief rest and refueling at 3pm.

On this summit, Mitch told me of the

life of English explorer, William Tillman, and gave a quote of his that became the oft-repeated motto of this trip: "Strenuousness is the immortal path; sloth, the way of death."

With that, we dropped down 902 feet to the saddle with Mount Brice and gained the final 1400 feet to our trip's high point at 7099 feet. Brice is a bulky, broad, turkey-tail, fan-shaped mass that drops off about 2700 feet before rising to Hozomeen, the next higher peak.

We finally enjoyed a decent rest here, 8 hours 20 minutes from the car. The dry summit had a broken-down cairn, but no register.

Brice lies on a ridge between 26-Mile Creek and 28-Mile Creek. These are distances from the town of Hope. There are several other "x-mile creeks" named along an old miner's trail.

From Brice, we could identify most of the Canadian Skagit peaks. Many of them were named for Englishmen or their descendants, like Wright, Finlayson, Whitworth, Outram, Dewd-

ney, Ford, Rideout, Lockwood, Thompson, Potter.

There are a few Indian names too, like Shawatum, Klesilkwa, and Nepopekum. And there were several 400- and 500-foot prominent peaks that are simply a closed-contour on the map, and not named. We made plans for future explorations up here.

The most dominant mountain in the area is Silvertip, just across the Skagit River from us. At 8500 feet, it is the King of the Skagit in Canada. It was truly a beauty in the afternoon shadows and light of early summer.

Even more impressive is the fact that it drops off to a 2400+-foot pass at Hope Slide before rising to the next higher peak, giving it an incredible 6100 feet of prominence.

After a sufficient rest we spotted a small 6200-foot bump along the traverse to Shawatum that looked like a good place to make camp. Just before reaching the 5500-foot low-point leading up to the bump, we were surprised by a 150-foot vertical drop-off that blocked our way.

The *Skagit River* quad that we were navigating with gave no hint of this whatsoever; in fact the contours shown here were the gentlest of all on our entire traverse. We were lucky and happy to find an easy way through the cliffs to the right.

After setting up the tent and melting snow for dinner, we began doing the math on all the various ups and downs we'd endured this day, and came up with a remarkable 8000-foot vertical elevation gain, with a 3500-foot loss in 11 hours. We double-checked our figures and agreed our fatigue was justified. Sleep came easily.

Morning came annoyingly soon. Fog filled the Skagit Valley and engulfed us a few times as we boiled up breakfast. As we choked down our oatmeal, we both agreed we hated this stuff.

The apricot morning light and clouds played off the Spickard, Rahm, and Custer cluster (the Chilliwacks), which are more impressive from this vantage than from any point in Washington. The Hozomeens looked mighty mean from here.

Mitch proposed the name "Mitchly Mountain" for our campsite, after Custer's righthand man on the Boundary Survey in 1859. A survey station was later established northeast of Shawatum after their trip, perhaps on this very spot.

As we huffed up and down two more unnamed intermediate summits (Peaks 6227 and 6340), making our way to Shawatum along the west border of Manning Provincial Park, we admired two picturesque, frozen high lakes, drained by a 500-foot waterfall at the headwaters of the creek.

The ultimate admiration though was for the East Peak of Shawatum, 7000-foot high and formidable from all directions.

We gave this peak a try up a new north ridge route, but were foiled about 300 feet short of the summit, with all sorts of good excuses: "the rock was rotten and 4th and 5th class ... it would take too much time," and most important of all, "it's Fathers Day, which is a very poor day to die."

Mitch, a horticulturist, turned us back to happy, though, when he spotted his favorite flower, *Saxifraga oppositifolia*, a tight green cushion of tiny

leaves with small, purple flowers.

We slipped around the south side of East Shawatum into a long snow couloir which led to the col between the twin summits of this duo.

We were running out of steam and bravado as the skies became threatening, and jointly decided to leave the East Peak, and it's known class 4 route alone. Too bad, in a way, since we'd come up with a good alternative name for it. Next to Shawatum, and in honor of those pesky mosquitoes, we were going to call it, "Swat 'Em." Alas—it swatted us.

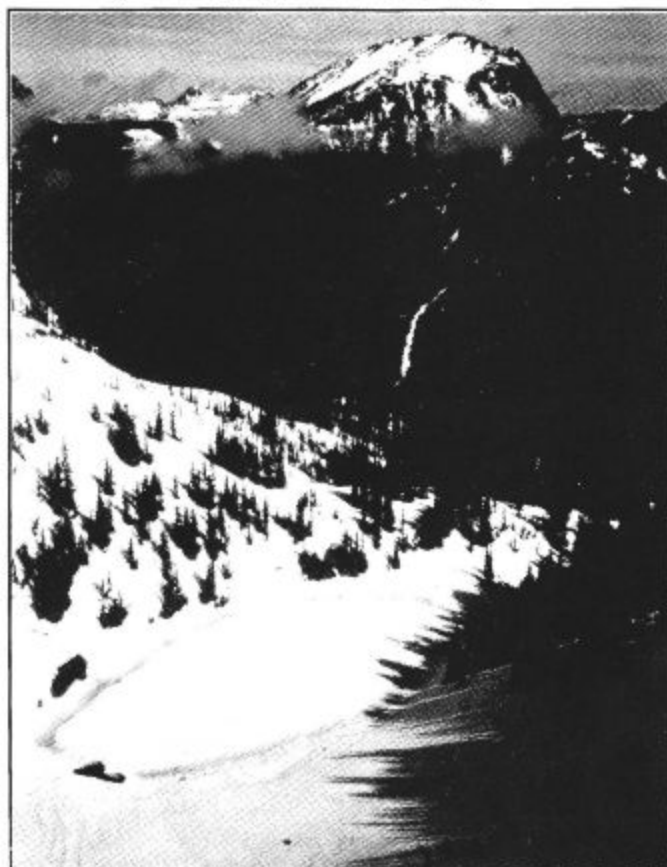
With the last of our energy, we topped out on Shawatum summit, 7081 feet, at 1:30. Here on top was a peculiar, tapered, dark-green, rocket-looking, plastic, 5-foot-diameter, 30-foot-tall structure with a short single-strand antenna sticking out of its top and a small solar panel on its south side. What on earth was this? There was also an aluminum 1971 BC benchmark and another collapsed cairn with no names.

We had lunch, took a Yellow-Catnap, and contemplated our exit. The obvious way from the map would be to shoot straight down a 3000-foot snow couloir that went nearly all the way to the road up Shawatum Creek at 4000 feet.

But we'd already dealt with the alder-nastiness on that road lower down, and from our vantage it was clear that the road had more (and bigger, oddly) trees on it than the surrounding woods. So we ended up going down the ridge just south of Shawatum Creek which proved to be a decent route, except for that anhedonic mosquito zone. 3 hours, 20 minutes down.

We delighted in the raindrops that started splattering on the windshield just as we drove out of the Skagit headwaters.

△



Frozen upper Shawatum Lake and Mount Brice.

John Roper

John Roper, of Bellevue, is an inveterate peak collector.

LEE MCKEE

Symposium

—A REVIEW OF THE WEST COAST SEA KAYAK SYMPOSIUM—

I'm always a little surprised at all the things I did or learned when I reflect on the several days I spend each September at the West Coast Sea Kayak Symposium at Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend. This year was no different.

If you're a sea kayaker but don't attend you're missing a lot. Or if you're thinking about becoming a sea kayaker you can pick up a lot of information fast. The attendance fee is worth it. And you can reduce the cost by being a volunteer and spending some time helping out.

This year classes and kayak demos started right out at 9am on Friday and ran until Sunday afternoon. Since some classes are presented only once, you miss out if you're not there from the start. Three days might seem like a lot but there's much to do.

So how do you fill your time? You can walk the beach and try out lots of kayaks. This is a great place to pick out just the right one for you, as a number of people I talked with were doing this year. To get the most of this bring at least your own PFD—your own paddle can speed up the demo process, too.

If you want some on-the-water training you can sign up for one of the paddling classes presented by Northwest Outdoor Center. Be warned, though: the class spots usually fill up quickly. This year there were three types of classes—fundamental paddling techniques, intermediate paddling techniques, and rescue practice. Yes, you do practice wet exits and rescues *in* the salt water!

Leaving the beach you can stroll through the exhibit tent on the main parade ground. Here you'll find retailers, manufacturers, outfitters, and clubs

providing information or selling their products. Northwest Kayaks, Pacific Water Sports, and Olympic Outdoor Center are three local retailers who always have a selection of paddle equipment for sale—some at reduced prices.

I make it a point to stop at the Kokatat display to find out what is new since I like their products and don't always find all the things they offer at local shops. For instance they now sell a line of neoprene gear and they will be coming out with their own PFD late this year. Looking at the prototype, it looks like a good design, and Ann is particularly interested in their PFD designed for women.

Don't want to spend time on the beach, on the water, or looking at stuff? Then you can amply fill your time in classes. There is a full spectrum of topics from which to choose—ranging from the "how to" to the "where to go." This year I went to several new ones.

One was called "You Don't Need No Stinkin' Rudder" presented by Steve Scherrer of Alder Creek Canoe and Kayak in Portland. Paddlers know that "rudders" can be a pretty polarized topic. There were several people in the class who expressed opinions from both sides making for some interesting discussion. Steve definitely tends to the "you-don't-need-one" side as you can tell from the class title.

Another new one was "Safety: A Different View" presented by Andy Taylor of Force Ten Ocean Whitewater Tours in Northern California. He was presenting the class because he sees a rising trend in the number of deaths and rescues of sea kayakers as the sport increases in popularity and people who are not prepared venture out. He thinks partly to blame is the perception that sea kayaking is "boating" rather than a "water sport" where most likely you will be *in* the water at some point. The description of the class included the statement that "this class is guaranteed to be thought provoking" and it sure was for me.

Not all class programs are in buildings. This year I went to an on-the-water program called "British Style of Sea

Kayak Handling" by Nigel Foster. While we lined a finger pier jutting out from the beach, Nigel demonstrated a variety of paddling techniques, including a one-handed sculling brace during which he actually stood up in his kayak! I was impressed with how smoothly and seemingly effortlessly he controlled his kayak. I liked his presentation style and picked up a number of pointers that may help me improve my strokes.

All in all I attended ten classes during the three days, toured the exhibition tent a number of times, spent time in the beach demo area, and attended the evening entertainment programs. Like I said, an intensive three days. I got a lot out of it and intend to go again next September.

If you're interested, too, start looking for information early next summer. The Symposium itself is usually held on the third weekend of September—Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. By registering early you get a discount on the fee, and you can cut costs if you volunteer. However you do it, if you sea kayak I strongly recommend going!

The Symposium—one of the largest in the nation—is sponsored by the Trade Association for Sea Kayaking. You can contact them for Symposium information:

TASK
12455 N Wauwatosia Rd
Mequon WI 53097.

△

Lee McKee, of Port Orchard, is Pack & Paddle's business manager.



Ann Marshall

The children's beach, where kids can have fun in little kayaks.



Ann Marshall

The "big kids" beach" where adults can test-drive many models of kayaks.

BOB MCBRIDE

Paddling Yellowstone Lake

—SEEDGE BAY TO GRANTS VILLAGE—

We started our trip by arriving at Yellowstone Park on September 10, 1995, to arrange for reservations for our backcountry camping spots and to purchase our boating permits.

Reservations can be made up to 24 hours before put-in. A \$5 boat permit is required for boats on Yellowstone Lake. Reservations can be made in advance for backcountry campsites by calling 307-344-2160/2163 for an information package. Advance reservations cost \$15.

We spent the night camping at Bridge Bay and staying out of the way of the large bull buffalo that was wandering around the camp.

Day 1. September 11.

There were 7 people going on the trip and two of them were only staying five days. We spent the morning shuttling the cars from Sedge Bay to Grants Village. We launched from Sedge Bay and took out at Grants Village. The first night's camp was at 5 E 9 Just past Park Point. The site is about 6 miles from the launch site.

We arrived about 1400 and the wind was coming out of the northwest and causing some 1-foot waves. The beach area is rocky and not a good place to land. There is a great view of the lake



View of the southeast arm of Yellowstone Lake from The Promontory.

Bob McBride

to the northwest.

We saw several eagles and only two other people in single kayaks.

Day 2.

29 DEGREES LOW; 64 DEGREES HIGH.

On the water by 0800 to go to our next campsite—6 A 1—on the southeast arm of Yellowstone. We will spend three nights at this location. This is a

picturesque setting with a good landing site, big grassy meadow and a view to the east across the southeast arm of Yellowstone Lake. We saw a moose, deer and eagles near camp.

Day 3.

8 miles paddling, 10 miles hiking. We paddled

across the southeast arm and did a hike up to the Yellowstone River. We met a packer hauling in supplies on horseback to some backcountry Park Ranger, and one person hiking the backcountry.

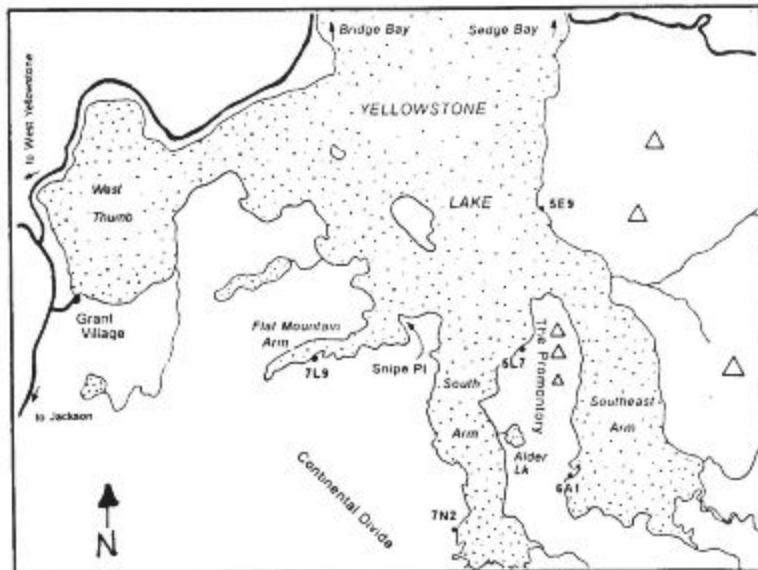
We saw some pelicans, moose and sand hill cranes while hiking. We heard the elk bugling but could not see them. Back at camp we watched the stars and saw several shooting stars. The elevation at the lake is 7730 feet and the nights are very clear.

Day 4.

35 DEGREES LOW; 65 DEGREES HIGH.

We saw two moose from our camp while we were having breakfast. Today some of the party are going hiking, some boating, and some just taking it easy in camp. The sky is a bright blue and the mountains are very clear.

After going hiking I decided it was time to try my luck at flyfishing from the kayak. I paddled about 200 yards from camp and started fishing. The water was very clear and I could see the bottom. After the first couple of casts I was getting the feel of flyfishing from a kayak when a monster of a fish came after the fly.



I missed the fish and almost upset the kayak in calm water, I was so excited! Trying again, this time I waited until the fish took the fly. It was a cutthroat weighing about 3 pounds and about 20 inches long.

In about 1½ hours of fishing I caught and released five beautiful cutthroat trout.

In the evening George and I paddled out to see if we could locate some elk. We paddled up to within 100 yards of shore and watched a 6-point bull elk protect his harem from a small raghorn and a spike elk.

Day 5.

32 DEGREES LOW; 65 DEGREES HIGH.

We packed up and were under way by 0800 to go to our next camp—5 L 7. Bek and Nancy headed back to their car since they had to return. The next camp is located about 7.4 miles from campsite 6 A 1.

The wind came up when we were about ½-mile from our camp. Whitecaps were foaming by the time we beached at the new spot. This campsite has some nice sandy beaches.

We saw one man in a canoe, an eagle and an osprey.

Day 6.

35 DEGREES TO 70 DEGREES.

Paddled 6.7 miles to 7 N 2. We will stay at this campsite for three days. The water was as smooth as a mirror until about ¼-mile from camp. The wind came up and the lake started getting rough before we arrived at our new camp.

At the campsite we saw tracks of a grizzly bear. We are starting to see a lot of ducks, some eagles and we have also

seen some loons.

Day 7.

35 degrees to 71 degrees.

Today we did some paddling and hiked up to Alder Lake. Paddled around the east and south end of South Arm. We saw a beautiful sight of 23 pelicans flying in a single line up the canyon. We also saw sand hill cranes and many ducks.

I met a ranger and traded a few flies since I was starting to run low.

We paddled out in the evening and watched the elk. They wouldn't run away if you were on the water and quiet. The wind is getting cold and we are due for a change of weather.

Day 8.

Today we spent hiking up toward the Continental Divide and Heart Lake. We returned by hiking through the burn of '89. We saw a bull elk and also spotted a bull moose bedded in the grass a short distance from camp.

The temperature was 52 degrees at 1400. The weather changed to rain, hail, thunder and lightning during the night.

Day 9.

35 DEGREES TO 51 DEGREES.

We are on our way to 7 L 9. The weather is changing so we didn't spend much time sightseeing. Paddled 11 miles. After setting up the camp we paddled to the end of Flat Mountain Arm and saw two elk and several Canada geese. It is starting to rain just as we got back to camp.

Day 10.

37 DEGREES TO 51 DEGREES.

We packed up and were on the water by 0820. The wind is blowing and it is getting cold. After about 2 miles we beached the kayaks since the wind was picking up. We walked around toward Snipe Point. The wind was blowing out of the north, putting up 3-foot waves and a lot of whitecaps.

We sat on the beach for 7 hours waiting for the wind to go down. We finally decided to camp in campsite 7 L 7,



Bob McBride

Flyfishing on the southeast arm of Yellowstone Lake.

which we had just passed. The wind is very cold so it was an early night to the tents.

Day 11.

15 DEGREES TO 60 DEGREES.

Frost on everything, but the wind has stopped and it is a beautiful day. There are icicles hanging from the stumps and branches where the waves have splashed.

We paddled about 13.2 miles to Grants Village. The lake is very smooth and the skies are clear with snow on the peaks. What a lovely day to end our great paddle.

Yellowstone Lake is a great place to paddle in the fall. There are very few people on the lake, great scenery, bugling elk—but the weather can change!

We used the Yellowstone Lake trail map by Trails Illustrated. It shows all campsites and is waterproof.

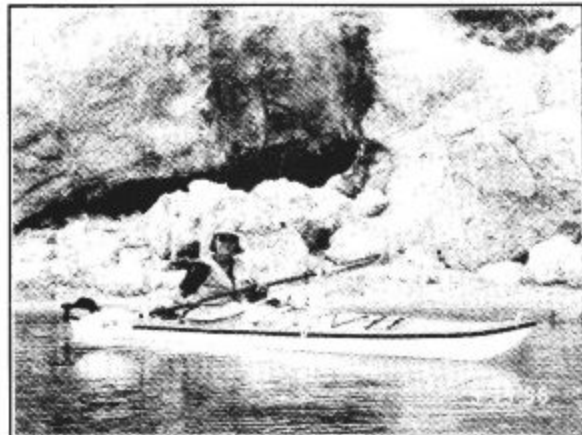
For a free catalog, contact:

Trails Illustrated
PO Box 3610
Evergreen CO 80439
800-962-1643.

Bear poles are located at all the campsites and all food items need to be put up for the night or when leaving camp during the day.

When paddling on Yellowstone Lake beware of changing weather conditions and always be prepared for the unexpected. △

Originally from Montana, Bob McBride, of Silverdale, has lived in Washington since 1985. Besides being an avid hiker and kayaker, he also enjoys gardening and wood-working.



Bob McBride

Shirley McBride paddles near some hot springs at Sedge Bay.

MARK OWEN & PAUL CHO

Three Summits in the North Cascades

SHUKSAN, Sulphide Glacier

With a week of mid-July climbing ahead of us, and wanting a close-up view of Mount Baker, we decided on Mount Shuksan as our first objective. After registering at the Sedro-Woolley Ranger Station we headed up Highway 20 and took a left on the Baker Lake road. About 4 miles past the resort turn-off we turned left on the Shannon Creek road and traveled 3 miles before turning right the final 1.4 miles to road's end.

The first mile follows the old logging road before heading up the Shannon Ridge trail 742 in an old clearcut. We gained the road at about 4600 feet and followed a muddy trail until it opened up to great views of Mount Baker and Baker Lake. There are great camp spots here.

The Shannon Ridge runs perpendicular to the ridge that borders the Sulphide. We followed it until we went through a gap at about 5000 feet where the first climber camps are. Don't be lulled into stopping here unless you want a long summit day.

We followed around on the east side of the ridge up to a nice flat camp on the Sulphide at about 6300 feet. It took us about 5 hours (3600 feet gain) to here. The views were spectacular. We

could see the Pickets to the east, Baker to the west, and Shuksan's summit tower to the north. The clouds rolled in big and white but never threatening.

We left at 6 the following morning and climbed up the Sulphide to the top of Hells Highway and met another group coming up from Lake Ann. Together we kicked steps up the central gully on the tower. There were two spots where our crampons hit rock. Soon the snow will be gone and the tower section will be loose rock.

At the top of the gully we exited left to the ridge and scrambled class 3 rock to the summit. Five hours from camp.

Nooksack Tower was impressive. After an hour on the summit we carefully backed down the gully, glad to have crampons and a rope. Three hours later we were back at camp and 2½ hours after that back to the car.

Glissading down the Sulphide was a real kick! We were delighted to see the trail nicely brushed out. Thanks to the kind souls who made the trail out so much better than the way in.

NORTH CUTTHROAT, West Ridge ("Cannonhole Peak")

The Green Trails map lists this peak as Point 7865. In reality this peak is not the true North Peak of Cutthroat.

Its south ridge has a huge cannonhole in it so maybe that would be a more appropriate name.

The approach is straightforward. We parked at Rainy Pass and hiked about 1 mile north on the Pacific Crest Trail to the first major stream crossing. This stream drains the northwest basin of Cutthroat. We followed it on its south side to an open basin at about 5700 feet. We found a flat spot on snow to make camp. Later in the season you may have to hike farther up to the upper basin (6000 feet) to find a site that will hold a tent.

The next morning we slept in, enjoying the quiet of this



Mark Owen

A great day to be climbing—Paul is ready to head out from our base camp.

beautiful and remote place. As we climbed to the upper basin we could see both peaks of Cutthroat and our objective on the left or north side. We debated about gaining the west ridge sooner, but were glad we didn't as we saw many deep notches along its length.

Once above the cliffs of the upper basin we kicked steps to an upper shelf directly below the west ridge at about 7000 feet. From here we climbed the steeper snow to a point about 75 feet below the west ridge.

We found a little shelf on rock above the last snow and put on our rock shoes. Paul led a 5.3 pitch up and right to a sandy gully which we followed to the true west ridge. Finally we could see north!

Leaving our boots we began a roped traverse of the ridge. We found exposed class 4 climbing for about 5 rope lengths to the final notch. From here two pitches got us to the summit.

The last 20 feet features a chimney move that required some extra concentration. We had great views of Cutthroat and its true north peak from the summit slab. We noticed a party of



Paul Cho

Mark on Shuksan's summit, Mount Baker behind.

three rappelling the main route and could hear them talking. We found no evidence of a previous visit, so we built a small cairn and placed a register inside.

Carefully we rappelled the summit block using a nice tilting horn for a sling. An hour later we were back at our boots and two hours after that back to our basin camp. Six hours up; three hours down.

SOUTH EARLY WINTER SPIRE, South Arete

This enjoyable four-pitch rock climb was the final adventure of our five-day trip to the North Cascades. After breakfast at the Washington Pass Overlook we headed up the Blue Lake trail for 1.5 miles and then up the climbers' route to the south arete of the spire. We hurried along under threatening skies, but were blessed at the arete to find improving weather, although we could see rain showers on Goode.

After stashing our boots and changing to rock shoes, Paul led expertly up the first pitch. It features a 15-foot crack behind a flake (5.5) and an awkward friction move to easier climbing.



Mark Owen

Paul on summit of Point 7865.

The second pitch involves a deep chimney that is best done facing outward (5.4). The third pitch features a steep but easy rib.

From there we carried our rope to one last fun slab move before scrambling to the top. Ironically we met the

same party of three Canadians who climbed Shuksan ahead of us on Monday. They left us alone on the summit to enjoy the great views of Silver Star, the Wine Spires, and two climbers making their way up the final slabs of North Early Winter Spire.

Climbing the South Arete is not severe, but quite enjoyable and easy to protect. Midweek is a great time to go. We have heard that The Mountaineers use it frequently and because the rappel route follows the climbing route it must get very busy on hot weekends.

We made four rappels to get back to our boots. The snow made for a quick descent back to the car. Four hours up, 2½ hours down.

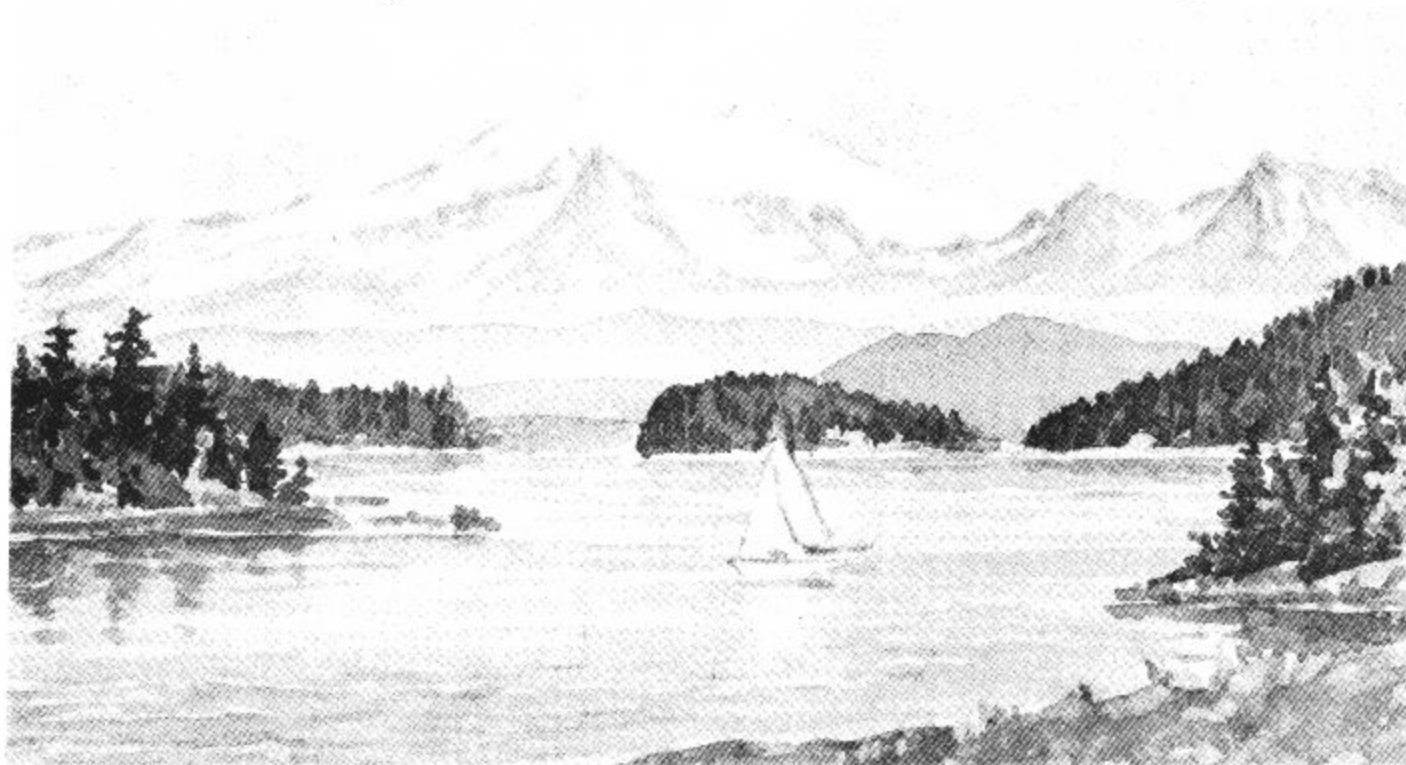
△

Mark Owen, of Shoreline, is an elementary school teacher. He has been hiking and climbing for about 15 years.

Paul Cho, of Shoreline, began climbing in the Canadian Rockies. He is an assistant professor at the UW Radiation Oncology department.

Mountain Gallery

by Dee Molenaar



Mount Baker from the San Juans.

PANORAMA

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

STARKS' SLIDE SHOW—On November 13, legendary hikers Bill and Peg Stark will repeat their slide show "How Deep the High Journey" that was such a big hit last year in Seattle.

The presentation will be held in Leavenworth, at the Sleeping Lady Conference Retreat (7375 Icicle Road) at 7:30pm.

Their slide show has evolved over 35 years and describes an odyssey in all seasons of the experiences in the high lakes of the Enchantments.

Tickets are \$5 at the door. All proceeds will go to the Wildlink Program of the Washington Wilderness Coalition to fund wilderness education projects.

If you can't make the slide show, you can still order one of their videos, with photos by Bill and narration by Peg. Send \$24.83 (includes tax and \$3 shipping; out-of-state folks can subtract the \$2.08 tax) to:

Peg and Bill Stark video
PO Box 312
Leavenworth WA 98826.

SNO-PARK CHANGES—What do we users want? Do we still want expensive, luxurious groomed trails at our Sno-Parks? Are we willing to settle for a simple plowed parking lot?

This winter, the Winter Recreation office of Washington State Parks will conduct a random survey of Sno-Park users to try to determine if changes should be made to how Sno-Park funds are spent.

The State Parks Commission approved a special fee proposal at their October 17 meeting that would allow the Sno-Park program to charge an extra fee at those areas where use was heavy and maintenance costs were expensive.

This additional fee, called a "Special Groomed Trail Permit," would be put in place next winter if the results of this winter's survey indicate that users do want groomed trails at the high-use areas (such as Lake Wenatchee, I-90 corridor, Mount Spokane).

Although the amount of the fee has not been determined, it could possibly be in the range of \$20 per vehicle, *in addition to* the standard Sno-Park permit fee.

OLYMPIC SHUTTLE—Olympic Van Tours runs a shuttle service on the Olympic Peninsula for hikers and back-

packers. You can avoid car rentals, risk of auto vandalism, and doubling back on hikes by getting dropped off and picked up at the trailheads of your choice.

The shuttle is based on a per-hour rate from Port Angeles, but the company will help you team up with other groups headed to the same general area. Olympic Van Tours will also pick you up at Sea-Tac if you're from out-of-town.

Call or write for more information:
Olympic Van Tours
PO Box 2201
Port Angeles WA 98362
800-550-3858.

SKI INSTRUCTORS' COLLEGE—On the weekend of December 5-7, a ski instructors' college will be held in the Methow Valley. This PSIA event is open to the public—anyone may attend.

Participants will be awarded Level I PSIA certification for successful completion of the course. Course fees are \$40 for Friday; \$60 for Saturday-Sunday. If you would like to have PSIA certification, this is your chance.

For registration information, call Don Portman in Winthrop, 509-996-2451.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE UNDERWAY—The fee program to generate maintenance funds is already producing results, according to Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

"We started putting Trail-Park dollars to work immediately," says Gary Paull, trails coordinator. "We have crews and contractors working on more than 75 of our more popular trails, including Denny Creek and Lake 22."

Maintenance has included clearing trails of downed trees, debris, brush and other vegetation and repairing trail tread to prevent damage and increase safety. Work will continue this fall until bad weather closes down operations.

Baker-Snoqualmie alone has collected \$278,000 in Trail Park dollars since July 12 (when the program began) through the end of August. So far, the Forest has spent about \$195,000 of that money on:

- trail maintenance—approximately \$130,000 included hiring an addition 8.5 trail maintenance workers and awarding three contracts. Projects have included removing downed trees on

275 miles of trail, brushing 118 miles of trail, drainage work and repair work on tread and bridge railings.

- trailhead maintenance—about \$40,000 which includes funding four people to update trailhead bulletin boards, clean toilets, maintain parking lots, provide increased security and do compliance checks.
- administrative costs—approximately \$25,000 which includes pass sales, extended office hours for sales, bookkeeping and program information.

Baker-Snoqualmie plans to publish a detailed year-end report on the distribution of Trail Park dollars.

MOUNT HOOD PERMITS—Limited use may be in the future for Mount Hood trails, including the round-the-mountain Timberline Trail. Mount Hood National Forest is completing an analysis of overuse and will release their report soon.

After the report is released, the public will have 30 days to comment. A final document will be produced, and any changes implemented.

The Forest Service is concerned that solitude standards are being exceeded on most trails, especially the popular Ramona Falls, Top Spur, Burnt Lake, Cloud Cap and Elk Cove trails, as well as the Hogback Ridge climbing route.

SKI CLUB MOVES MEETINGS—Starting this month, the Washington Ski Touring Club will hold their meetings at the new REI store, 222 Yale Avenue North in Seattle.

The WSTC offers ski trips throughout the winter, training for club members, and also volunteers as Nordic Ski Patrol at Mount Rainier National Park.

If you want to find out more about the club, write WSTC, Box 31233, Seattle WA 98103.

PLUM CREEK SEEKS ACCESS—Plum Creek has requested access across Wenatchee National Forest land to 45 parcels it owns in Kittitas County.

The Forest Service is asking for public input to help identify issues. Comments relating to the project should be received by 11/5. Public meetings will be scheduled this winter.

Send comments to:
Floyd Rogalski, Cle Elum District
803 W 2nd Street
Cle Elum WA 98922.

REST STOP

EQUIPMENT, RECIPES, TIPS

SLEEPING BAG STORAGE—In the off-season I store my down bag loose inside my pack.—*Darrell Cass, Mount Vernon.*

DEL'S SUMMIT SHOE REPAIR—It took me a while to find someone to resole Bill's leather hiking boots. I didn't find anyone in Olympia. I finally arrived at Del's Summit Repair in Puyallup.

Del is a true cobbler. His store provides full service shoe repair, including boot repair. For about a third the cost of a new pair of leather hiking boots, Bill is now ready for hundreds of more miles of hiking in his well-worn favorite leather boots.

Del's Summit Shoe Repair is located at 8120 Canyon Road East, Puyallup. Hours are 9 to 6 Monday through

Friday; 10 to 4 on Saturday. Call 253-531-6455 for information.—*Jane Habegger, Olympia.*

SERPENTINE—In reference to Peg Fern's comments about serpentine rock, it is called dunite. It is the earth's mantle on the surface. The main mineral is olivine.

When exposed to the earth's atmosphere, the iron ions rust, thus the orange-colored surface. The weathered surface is very rough.

The Three Lakes in the Twin Sisters range has one of the largest formations of dunite. It is one of my favorite places to camp, but is very difficult to reach.—*Shirley Haley, Mount Vernon.*

KIDS' CATALOG—One of the neatest catalogs to come through the *Pack*

& *Paddle* door recently is **Marty's For Kids**. The catalog features high-quality, hard-core active winter clothing for children.

Manufacturers include Patagonia, Columbia, Obermeyer and Spyder, with styles for snowboarding and skiing. For a catalog, call 800-924-5484.

FIRST AID—The first aid kit that saves lives rarely comes out of a bag, but from your brain. Band-aids and moleskin can ease suffering, but knowledge and skill will make a difference when it really counts. Learn first aid skills and techniques for backcountry situations from a Mountain-Oriented First Aid (MOFA) class this winter.

Contact your local Red Cross office for dates, locations, and cost.

Gear Review

PLATYPUS™ Drinking Water System—When I'm on the water sea kayaking I find I don't drink enough water when I'm paddling my single. I don't like to keep a water bottle on the deck in front of me, and I don't like to open the spray skirt to get at a water bottle in the cockpit when I'm offshore. After seeing several people using the Platypus system by Cascade Designs, I decided to give it a try.

The Platypus is a collapsible plastic

laminated bottle. With the bottle I bought a 42-inch-long Duck Bill drinking tube and a Duck Lips bite valve to use with it. Also available is a bag lined with a reflective material to house the Platypus and help keep it cool in the sun.

I always carry a spare paddle mounted on the aft deck of my kayak. I put the Platypus in its special bag under the blades of the spare paddle both to hold it in place and to help protect it from solar heating. I run the drinking tube up to the back of the cockpit and at times clip the end to the shoulder of my life jacket.

You get water by biting the Duck Lips and sucking. It's that simple. On hot days the water in the bag gets warm, but it's better than not drinking enough. I carry extra water in one of the hatches and refill the water bottle if needed at a lunch stop. There are a few problems, but generally the system I use works well.

One of the problems is that the connection of the drinking tube to the water bottle is fussy. You have to have it positioned just right or you won't get a water-tight seal. Because of that, I've inadvertently drained the bottle a number of times as I've paddled along. Now that I know better, I'm very careful to check that it isn't leaking, but it

invariably takes me several frustrating attempts to get it connected right.

The second problem is with the Duck Lips valve. It is held in position by friction and is designed to come off. In other applications that may not be a problem, but the way I'm using it, it is. I've now lost two of them—once because I failed to unclip the tube from my life jacket and popped the valve off when I got out of the boat. The other time was when I was practicing a self-rescue and the valve popped off when I slid over the tube as I was pulling myself onto the rear deck.

The replacement valves cost about \$5 each so losing even one is a relatively expensive deal. I heard a rumor the design may have changed but I have yet to see one of the new ones in a store.

On the plus side, besides now drinking more water, I have found no objectionable taste from the plastic bottle.

The bottle comes in a couple of different sizes with a couple of options for the closure cap. As with other Cascade Designs products, it appears to be well made. I've been using mine for a number of months and it is holding up well. You can contact Cascade Designs directly for more information: 800-531-9531, or look for the Platypus display in your favorite outdoor store.—*Lee McKee, Port Orchard.*

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation. 1. Publication title: Pack & Paddle 2. Publication number: 1059-4493 3. Filing date: 9-25-97 4. Issue frequency: monthly 5. Number of issues published annually: 12 6. Annual subscription price: \$18US. 7. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366. 8. Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business office: same. 9. Full names and complete mailing addresses of publisher, editor and managing editor: publisher: Pack & Paddle Publishing Inc, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366, editor: Ann Marshall, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366, managing editor: same. 10. Owner(s): Pack & Paddle Publishing Inc, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366, Ann Marshall, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366, Lee McKee, PO Box 1063, Port Orchard WA 98366. 11. Known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders: none. 12. N/A. 13. Publication title: Pack & Paddle. 14. Issue date for circulation data below: October 1997. 15. Extent and nature of circulation (first number is average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months; second number is actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date): 15a. Total number of copies: 2033, 1900. 15b1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, and counter sales: 75, 122. 15b2. Paid or requested mail subscriptions: 1582, 1530. 15c. Total paid and/or requested circulation: 1657, 1652. 15d. Free distribution by mail: 50, 45. 15e. Free distribution outside the mail: 217, 166. 15f. Total free distribution: 267, 211. 15g. Total distribution: 1924, 1863. 15h. Copies not distributed: 15h1. office use, leftovers, spoiled: 54, 37. 15h2. Returns from news agents: 55, 0. 15i. Total: 2033, 1900. Percent paid and/or requested circulation: 87.12%, 88.67%. 16. Publication of statement of ownership: publication required, will be printed in the November 1997 issue of this publication. 17. Signature and title of Editor, publisher, business manager or owner: /s/ Ann Marshall, Editor.

EDITOR'S JOURNAL



Early snowstorm at Cascade Pass.

FROM THE MAIL BOX—"I have enjoyed *Pack & Paddle* from the start. It is one of the few magazines that I read completely."—*Seattle*.

"One of my favorite days is when *Pack & Paddle* arrives. I recently bought a copy of [another magazine] but it just didn't fill the bill."—*Issaquah*.

"I used to be an avid hiker before family, children, house and all those other middle-age distractions came along. I have been doing some vicarious hiking over the past several months, with your assistance, and I am very happy to say that I am out on the trail once again, thanks in no small part to your fine magazine."—*Seattle*.

"I enjoy your mag immensely for planning future hikes and vicariously experiencing others' exploits."—*Beaverton*.

"Way out here, *Pack & Paddle* is always something that brings joy to the heart when it shows up in the mailbox."—*Pullman*.

"Would like to see more reports of shorter hikes. Would like fewer trail reports from far-away, out-of-state places."—*Olympia*.

FISHING REPORTS—A reader commented recently that we should have fishing reports. Actually, we try very hard to avoid mentioning fishing at all, though Lee loves high-lake fishing. I carefully edit out all references to fishing in your reports.

Why is this? Well, as soon as folks know that a lake is "good fishing" it

spells disaster for the lake. I can think of numerous examples. So *Pack & Paddle* does not print high-lake fishing information.

There is, however, an excellent club—Washington State Hi-Lakers—that meets monthly on Mercer Island. Dues are reasonable and membership gets you a quarterly newsletter to keep up on club doings. If you want to know more about high lake fishing, go to one of the Hi-Laker meetings, on the third Wednesday of each month at the Mercerview Community Center, 7:30pm. Call George Bucher if you need more information, or directions: 425-821-5752.

NEW HOME FOR DOG—On day 4 of an 8-day trip, an abandoned dog joined *Pack & Paddle* reader Connie McLaughlin, of Edmonds, and her daughter Jo who were doing this year's section of the PCT (White to Stampede).

The dog was emaciated and starving. After trying unsuccessfully to find someone at Sheep Lake to take the dog out, the two women convinced the animal to come with them. At their first rest break, Connie says, the dog collapsed. "We thought we'd killed him," she said. But after a long rest, a bite to eat and some water, he was ready to move on. Connie and Jo went on short rations to donate some of their food to the dog, a black Lab mix.

For the rest of the trip, they begged dog food from anyone they met hiking with a dog, and on their second-to-last day they were given enough to last the rest of the trip, which meant they could go back to full rations!

The dog is well-trained and very intelligent, says Connie. With regular food, he gained strength and was able to hike right along with them. The dog now has a new home with Jo and her family. His name is "PC Packer."

ON LINE—Realizing that many of you prefer e-mail instead of the Postal Service, we now have that ability. If you would like to use e-mail for brief communications (trip reports, bulletin board items, or the like) our address is: pack&paddle@visnetinc.com

If you include an "attachment" with your message, please make it a text (.txt) file. That way our word processing program can translate it.

Eventually we should also be able to send and receive faxes, but I am having

a difficult time figuring out the complexities. Learning how e-mail works is enough of a challenge for now.

This has been a learning process and there have been a few glitches. There will probably be a few more. Thanks to friends Bert and Diana Cripe (Diana gets a gold star for being the cheerful recipient of many "test messages"), John Roper, and Linda Rostad for letting me practice on them. And thanks to Ron Barensten and to Lee's sister Pat for sharing their extensive computer knowledge with me.

We have no intention of changing the basic nature of *Pack & Paddle*; we're just adding a new tool to help us communicate with you.

SNOW CAMPING—For our fall trip into the Pasayten, Lee and I waited until we had a reasonably good weather forecast, but not long enough for the snow from the previous storm to have melted. It was *cold*, and we were psychologically unprepared for snow-camping. I used a lot of those chemical hand-warmers and fortunately had brought along extra cocoa.

Hand-warmers and cocoa are my two requirements for successful snow camping.

COUGAR TRACKS—One of the good things about hiking on an early snowfall is seeing all the animal tracks that become visible. We saw hundreds of mouse, squirrel, bird, coyote and deer tracks, quite clear in the crisp snow.

At the pass between Farewell and Disaster Creeks we followed cat tracks for a long way. They were so big I could put my flattened-out fist inside them. Later at the ranger station I asked if they could be lynx tracks but was told no, they were probably made by a cougar.

YC—Yellow Cat scoffed at the idea of cat tracks being as big as my fist. She knows she is the Big Cat around here.

See you in the backcountry,

Ann Marshall

The Perfect Gift



- Thoughtful
- Great Selection
- Easy to Give
- Easy to Get
- Super Buy
- Free Stuff

LATEST EDITIONS

Green Trails Map Packs,
One of the Ten Essential
"Perfect Gifts"

GREEN TRAILS MAP PACKS™

Green Trail Map Packs™ are perfect gifts, overflowing with more than 1800 square miles of clear, current, compact, and convenient trail and terrain information; seeds of endless dreams, plans, adventures, and memories.



Choose from 12 map packages or custom select one for yourself:

1997 Certified GREAT GIFT

▲ Washington Pacific Crest Trail North, Central, South...or...Oregon North

▲ Go to the Olympics (package includes a sack for the maps)



▲ Ride nearly 1000 miles of Spoke Folks Mountain Bike Trails (includes Crystal Mountain, Cle Elum, Mazama, and more)



▲ Ski or snowshoe 1200 kilometers of WinterGreen Trails (includes Paradise, Leavenworth, Sun Mountain, Snoqualmie, Methow and more)



▲ Ask for Other Choices

▲ U Pick we ship Custom Select™
You pick 12 maps, we will assemble them in a Map Pack and ship them FREE.

Ask for and see the Map Packs at all the great Pacific Northwest's best outdoor, book, and map stores after November 1, 1997. Call 1 (800) 762-6277, 8 am to 1 pm Monday through Thursday for the store nearest you OR ORDER directly from Green Trails by calling 1(800) 762-6277 anytime. Be sure to leave your name and telephone number so we can clarify store and order information. You can also FAX your order to 1 (206) 542-0196 or EMAIL to gtrails@aol.com.

Save 10% off the individual map price (\$3.60 value) and get a FREE \$5 Map Sack plus FREE shipping (\$5 value).

Each Gift Pack includes 12 Green Trails maps, 1 FREE clear and light, rollable, foldable, and very popular monsoon-proof Green Trails Map Sack. FREE shipping anywhere in the contiguous U.S. We ship immediately upon receipt of your check for \$39.10 (includes tax) payable to Green Trails, P.O. Box 77734, Seattle, WA 98177

Offer good through February 14, 1998 and limited to stock on hand.

Basic Backpacking

Your Video Guide

to Overnight Backpacking

Produced in the Pacific Northwest

\$19.95 plus 8.6% sales tax and \$3.00 S&H

This 40 minute scenic and informative video makes an ideal **stocking stuffer** for the novice backpacker or hiker.

A **packing checklist** is also included.

Order now! Call toll free 1-888-425-5305.

All major credit cards accepted. Send checks to:

Twilight Entertainment, Inc.

17650 1st Avenue South #15

Seattle, WA 98148

Outdoor Recreation Information Center



books, maps,
and information



222 Yale Ave
Seattle WA 98121
206-470-4060

(second floor of
the REI building)

Help support the Mount Everest Environmental Expedition

The 3rd Everest Environmental Expedition (spring '98) will continue efforts to clean garbage from the mountain. You can help this project with the purchase of a t-shirt.

The shirts are high quality Hanes Beefy Ts, 100% pre-shrunk cotton. The design depicts mountain life in a Nepalese village.

Please circle color and size:

white	medium
ash grey	large
	extra large

shirt	\$20.00
shipping	\$ 2.00
total	\$22.00

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.

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.

TENT POLE REPLACEMENTS

Aluminum replacement tent poles for dome, tunnel or bivy style tents.

TA Enterprises

8212 NE 99th Circle

Vancouver WA 98662

360-260-9527

name _____

address _____

city, state, ZIP _____

Make checks payable to:
Everest Environmental Expedition
c/o Don Beavon
14721 47th Ave W
Lynnwood WA 98037-1845