The Boeing Employees Alpine Society is indeed honored to have Alex Bertulis as the March meetings guest speaker. Alex, who has climbed extensively throughout Africa, Europe, Alaska, Canada, and the lower United States, will give a slide presentation of his 1968 First Ascent of Mt. Foraker's South Face (17,400), considered to be one of the all time classic climbs of Alaska. We hope to see all of you at the meeting.

Basic Mountaineering Course

The 1974 Basic Mountaineering Course is forming. Any members or friends who are interested should contact Dave Campbell on 655-1461

Course Fee $36.00 per person
Orientation Meeting Plt II Engineering Theater 7:30 P.M. March 13
1st Class Session D.C. 9140 Bldg. 7:30 P.M. March 27
Classes 10 Consecutive Wednesdays
Field Trips 3 one-day outings
2 overnight climbs

If you are interested be sure to attend the orientation meeting.
The February meeting of the Boeing Employees Alpine Society was called to order by President Ken Spietz at 7:41. There were approximately 70 members and guests present.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as published.

New Business:

The Executive Committee has determined that there will be a Basic Climbing Course. (Details are published later in this Echo.) Jim Reed announced that Mountaineering First Aid Courses are in session. If you haven't had one now is your chance.

Pete Saunders has formulated a schedule for equipment loans and bookkeeping (see later pages of Echo). Pete also recommended the purchase of a JanSport tent and some strap on angles for snowshoes. These items will be considered at the March meeting.

Anyone interested in volunteering to take a tent to set up and inspect and get repaired should call Pete on 342-5540.

Membership- 32 members have paid 1974 dues as of today. Hurry and pay dues so that the membership list can be compiled.

If you have a vehicle capable of carrying 5 or more people and gear let Ken know. We are going to have to pool our cars to get to the mountains.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M. Keith Gunnar then showed some very interesting slides of ice climbing and discussed photographic techniques covered during some of the Rainier Mountaineering Seminars.

Dave Campbell

TREASURER'S REPORT

Starting Balance, Jan. 20, 1974 $2311.71
Expenditures 64.38
Receipts 187.00
Closing Balance, Feb. 20, 1974 $357.33

Glenn Brindeiro

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Mt. Hood Feb. 9,1974

The first Bocalsps climb of this year was successfully completed in the Timberline Lodge bar by Dick Burwell, Glenn Hitchcock, Gerry Lakin, and Travis Nelson.

Under a full moon the four left the lodge at 5:00 A.M. Saturday. Perfect weather and hard snow made climbing easy. By dawn the group was even with the base of Illumination Rock, by 9:00 had passed through the crater. The summit was reached by 11:45 A.M. with no difficulty experienced on the hogback or in the snow chute. On the summit the three giant Washington volcanoes- Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Rainier, and Mt. Adams dominated the view to the north. Looking south major peaks were visible to Mt. Shasta in California. After lunch and rest on a windless summit the four climbers set a course to the south which coincidentally terminated in the third floor bar.
ACTIVITY REPORTS (Continued)

of the Timberline Lodge. The atmosphere inside was nearly as perfect as the weather outside.

Mt. St. Helens Feb. 9, 1974
Although it got off to a slow start due to uncertainties about weather and gas, the Boealps Mt. St. Helens winter climb turned out to be moderately successful. After a hasty gathering of equipment Carl Carlson, Jack Winchester, Glenn Brindeiro, and Al Mercer piled into Carls station wagon about 7:30 Friday night (Feb. 7) and drove off into the night with a 5 gallon gas can strapped to the roof. Pete Saccomano, Anita Londzion and Ken Spietz were not far behind in Kens van. The first big event in the climb came when an open gas station was discovered just before the turnoff. It's amazing how much peace of mind can be produced by a gas gauge that says "full". The second big event came when we discovered that the Forest Service had lied--the road wasn't open past Spirit Lake. Our spirits buoyed by the prospect of an extra 4 mile hike in the morning we hit the sack and were seranaded by friendly snowmobilers. After a refreshing 15 or 20 minutes of sleep everyone cheerfully bounded up and began the trek up the road.
The climb itself was relatively uneventful--a long trudge cramponing up steep icy slopes over the Dog's Head and up to the false summit. At the schrund, Pete Saccomano broke through a snow bridge and was heard to utter some choice comments about the choice of routes. At the false summit we flaked out and nursed sore muscles while Jack Winchester went over and showed the flag at the true summit. On the way out we hitchhiked rides with snowmobilers (this turned out to be the most dangerous part of the climb - some of them apparently thought they were Kamakazi pilots). Some good memories - St. Helens by moonlight under a clear sky - Sunrise from the Dog's Head - Mt. Adams, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Hood in the morning light - Breaking over the top --

COMING ACTIVITIES

March 7  Hike?? Art Wolfe
March 23  Mt. Persis Snowshoe or Ski
          Leader: Ron Peltola 242-4655
March 30  Mt. Si Conditioner
          Leader: Dave Gerada LA2-5255
April 13-14 Rock Climbing Practice
          Leavenworth
May 11-12 Mt. St. Helens Climb
March 23/24 or 30/31 Mt. Baker Climb via Coleman Glacier
          Goes on good weather only
          Glenn Hitchcock 246-9052 or 655-0593
BOEALP EQUIPMENT

THOSE ELIGIBLE TO BORROW CLUB EQUIPMENT:
(1) ALL MEMBERS (AS DEFINED BY THE BYLAWS) WHO AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE LOAN PROCEDURES.
(2) NON MEMBERS WHEN IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE MEMBERSHIP AND WITH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONSENT

PURPOSES FOR WHICH EQUIPMENT IS LOANED:
(1) ALLOW MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW FACETS OF MOUNTAIN TRAVEL
(2) ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO EXPERIMENT WITH NEW EQUIPMENT DESIGNS
(3) PROVIDE MEMBERS WITH ITEMS NORMALLY CONSIDERED GROUP EQUIPMENT

BORROWER IS EXPECTED TO:
(1) CONTACT EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN FOR ALL BOOKINGS, CANCELLATIONS, EQUIPMENT PICK UP, AND EQUIPMENT SURRENDER
(2) TAKE GOOD CARE OF EQUIPMENT AND REPORT DAMAGE OR EXCESSIVE WEAR TO EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN
(3) PICK UP EQUIPMENT FROM LAST SCHEDULED BORROWER AND HAVE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR NEXT SCHEDULED BORROWER
(4) RETURN EQUIPMENT TO EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN WHEN NOT PICKED UP WITHIN SIXTY DAYS

EQUIPMENT CAN BE RETURNED TO ANY CLUB OFFICER AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

GUIDE LINES TO USAGE:
(1) FIRST COME FIRST SERVED
(2) MAXIMUM SIXTEEN CONSECUTIVE ITEM DAYS (I.E., ONE ITEM OF EQUIPMENT FOR SIXTEEN DAYS OR TWO ITEMS FOR EIGHT DAYS ETC.)
(3) MAXIMUM SIXTEEN ITEM DAYS IN ANY SIXTY DAY PERIOD
(4) ONE ADVANCE BOOKING OF UP TO THIRTY DAYS

EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN MAY EXERCISE HIS DISCRETION IN APPLYING THESE GUIDE LINES.

TO KEEP MEMBERS INFORMED OF THE EQUIPMENT INVENTORY AND THE DEGREE OF USE, THE LOAN TALLY SHEET FOR THE PRECEDING MONTH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN EACH ECHO

AVAILABLE EQUIPMENT:
(1) TENTS: ONE ALSPORT; ONE CRESTLINE; THREE SEAB; TWO LOGANS; ONE MCKINLEY; ONE MSR
(2) SNOWSHOES: TWO CROSS COUNTRY; TWO BEAR PAW; TWO NORTHWEST; TWO SHERPA
(3) ICE AXES: THREE MSR; TWO SHORTIES
(4) ALTMETERS: TWO FRENCH
(5) STOVE: ONE MSR

INVENTORY WILL BE MAINTAINED IN SERVICABLE CONDITION AND AT A LEVEL ESTABLISHED BY THE DEGREE OF MEMBERSHIP USE. NEEDED PURCHASES, SALES, AND EXTENSIVE REPAIRS WILL BE SUBJECT TO MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL.

YOUR FRIENDLY 1973/74 EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN IS PETER SAUNDERS; PHONE 342-5540 WEEKDAYS; 747-3665 EVENINGS AND WEEKENDS. PLEASE FOLLOW THE LOAN PROCEDURES AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE: YOUR SUPPORT AND COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED BY YOUR FELLOW BOEALPERS, AND WILL HELP TO MAKE THIS CLUB PROGRAM A SUCCESS. PLEASE LOOK AT LAST MONTHS LOAN TALLY SHEET AND RETURN ANY OVerDUE EQUIPMENT TO ME AS SOON AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN (14001 S.E. 45 CT. BELLEVUE)

THANK YOU

PETER SAUNDERS FEB 11/74
News about the energy crisis has tended to submerge conservation news in the media lately. However, one interesting item cropped up. It appears that a preliminary investigation by several oil companies indicates that geothermal energy sources exist in the Glacier Peak Wilderness area and in the vicinity of Mt. St. Helens. (Geothermal energy sources exist where a combination of geologic factors would permit extraction of steam heated by subsurface volcanic rock) Development of such sources would result in large scale disruptions of natural processes and would leave massive scars on lands which are now some of the most scenic in the United States. We can only hope that the energy crisis does not become so critical that it forces development of these sources.

Mountaineering Oriented First Aid Course

A mountaineering oriented first aid class will be taught at the Montlake Recreation Center, 16th East and East Calhoun on the Tuesdays and Thursdays in April from 7-10 P.M. A practical problem session will be held May 2 at Camp Long. This new 27 hour standard course combines the previous standard and advanced 36 hour course. Emphasis will be on practice of skills, use of equipment, and judgement for mountaineering accident situations. This particular session is announced first to BOEALPS. Registration is with Jim Reed 655-2667, Org B-8510, M.S. 41-35 until March 8. After this date, or to register for other first aid classes closer to home, call the Red Cross office at EA3-2345 and ask for M/O first aid class. Class limit is 30. Those who hold ARC cards and would like to assist at practice and practical sessions or who could contribute lecture ideas please contact Jim. Those registering for the course could start preparing materials used most in practice problems. These items are: Triangular bandages (2), Roller cravats (material 4', 5', or 6' long by 3" wide) and perhaps a wire splint. Note: Schedule changes will be made to eliminate conflicts with previously scheduled Boealps Activities.

CONSERVATION HINT

Before the next Boealps meeting, call up another member who lives near you and offer to car pool. You'll save gas and perhaps even encourage someone who might not otherwise come to the meeting.
The following photographs were taken during the Boc Alps climb of the Ptarmigan Traverse last August.

The party pausing at Formidable Col with Old Guard and Sentinel in the distance.

The party perched on top of La Conte Peak are from left to right, Bruce Gaumond, Dave Gerada, Jim Reed, Ron Peltola and Art Wolfe.
Art Wolfe looking across Agnes Greek to Gun Sight, Sinister and Dome Peak from Old Guard - Sentinel Col

Hey Harve! How do you expect to loose your winter fat by laying down and resting every five minutes?
The increasing number of mountaineering outings, many of them with participants new to the out-of-doors, and emphasis on and availability of more difficult climbing routes and techniques in climbing has led to a greater need for accident response knowledge in the party. Of recent impact has been the Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic (MAST) helicopter availability to deliver mountain rescue medics and evacuate injured mountaineers.

Jerry Sabel, our guest speaker is dedicated to mountain safety and rescue in training first-aid instructors, and being past chairman of Mountain Rescue Council (MRC) and chairman of paramedic and MAST programs for MRC. His enthusiasm and expertise are through at least 20 years of climbing experiences, rescue operations, and family backpacking enjoyment.

Pre-attraction: Hypothermia movie "By Natures Rules" at 7:00 P.M.
MEETING MINUTES

The March meeting of the Boeing Employees Alpine Society was called to order at 7:45 P.M. by club President Ken Spietz. There were approximately 60 members and guests present. The minutes and Treasurers report were approved as published in the Echo.

New Business:
The activities published in the March Echo were discussed and future activities planned. Several Beach Hikes are scheduled as well as a snowshoe climb and an April rock climbing seminar.

The Membership Chairman, Glenn Hitchcock, reported that 53 members had paid dues so far. Please pay soon so that our records can be straightened out and a new membership list prepared before summer activities start. Pete Saunders requested that BOEALP membership cards be re-established.

The Equipment Chairman, Pete Saunders, brought the recently purchased MSR stove to the meeting for inspection. He is seeking volunteers to take out a tent or other piece of equipment and thoroughly inspect it for need of repairs. Also, before using a piece of equipment it should be inspected to prevent failure in a potentially dangerous situation. He urged the members to think about future recommendations for club equipment purchases.

Past President Jim Reed discussed the progress of the climbing course organization and explained details of his mountaineering oriented first aid course which will be held during April. He is also upgrading the clubs expedition first aid kits which will now be available for use.

Old Business:
There are still several copies of the Cascade and Olympic climbing guides and some of the hike series books available from Dave Gerada at reduced prices.

President Ken Spietz announced that he is resigning from Boeing and that an election will be held at the April meeting for a new President.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned for a stimulating presentation of climbing in Alaska by Alex Bertulis.

Dave Campbell

News items and editorial comment contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Boeing Company.
TREASURER'S REPORT

Starting Balance, Feb. 20, 1974 $357.33
Receipts 66.00
Closing Balance, March 20, 1974 $423.33

Glenn Brindeiro

The Tenth Biennial Northwest Wilderness Conference will be held April 19 (eve.) through April 21 at the Eames Theater, Pacific Science Center. The conference will cover the past accomplishments and future activities planned for introducing new wilderness areas. There will be many guest speakers well known to environmentalists. For more information and reservation data contact Ken Spietz. The editor also has a copy of the conference format.

BOEALP ACTIVITIES

March 30 Mt. Si Conditioner Dave Gerada 655-9511/LA2-5255

April 6 Spring Conditioner-Mt. Ellinor Art Wolfe WE5-7674 or Ron Peltola CH2-4655

April 13 Spring Climb-Chair Peak Bruce Gaumond 773-0327 or CH6-2520

April 20-21 Rock Climbing Practice-Leavenworth Ken Spietz 455-0706

May 11-12 Mt. St. Helens Climb Dick Burwell 655-1792/SH7-8067

May The Cradle Frank Kuske SH6-3452

May Malachite Peak Jack Leicester 342-5372/546-2086

May Ptarmigan Ridge Paul Helmke WE7-2533

May 18-19 Ice Axe Practice-Chinook Pass Dave Gerada Nos. above

Early June Mt. Rainier-Tahoma Glacier-3 days. Party limit of 9, 4 known as of this date. Jack Leicester 342-5372/546-2086 or Bob Lesmeister 237-2754/839-9473

June Ingalls Peak Al Mercer 237-9225/SH6-9596

April 27 Granite Mt. Dave Gerada 655-9511/LA2-5255

Aug. 3-4 Mt. Johnson-Olympic Peninsula Glenn Hitchcock 655-0593 or 246-6576

Please call Dave Gerada to list future activities.
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It was a bright sunny, sparkling morning as we stopped in Aberdeen to top off the tank. Sunshine in Aberdeen—a good omen. Unfortunately, our destination of Oil City was still 100 miles distant and by the time we arrived the weather had turned to a heavy foreboding overcast. (There is no oil in Oil City, but then again there isn't much oil anywhere.) We headed down the Hoh River the quarter mile to the beach and after walking several hundred yards were greeted by light intermittent raindrops. The weather deteriorated from there as we plunged northward, eventually stopping to don assorted rain gear (Lesmeister was the biggest sensation in his Quasimodo poncho left over from Halloween). See Bruce, I typed just as you wrote it.—Ed.

After several miles, we climbed up, up, up over Hoh Head and followed the High Hoh Trail another few miles to where it descended at Mosquito Creek. There we stored our packs and went to explore for Arts' Mystery Cabin (sighted on a previous beach hike, a supposed luxurious cedar-shaked wilderness palace to refresh the spirits of the most weary hiker). Unfortunately, the Mystery Cabin failed to live up to advance billing: (1) It was on the other side of the creek, a ravaging 3 foot deep, forbidding channel; (2) it seemed a trifle small for five fully-equipped wet hikers; and (3) upon closer inspection it was discovered to be a luxurious cedar-shaked outhouse. Art apologized profusely.

Returning to the real Mosquito Creek shelter, we competed at a long lost wilderness art: fire-building-using-wet-wood. Several hours of whittling, paper-stoking, blowing, and wishing produced a smokey but cheerful blaze. The shifting wind imparted an Obertos' hickory smoke smell to every piece of clothing we had brought along. Along about sundown (the leader had noted the approximate sundown hour before hand out of the paper) we trooped to the beach to watch the waves and birds and raindrops. Then we cooked dinner and settled down to an evening of basketball games via Rons' radio. Art had nightmares of mice running across his face, the rest of us dreamed of sunnier climes.

In the morning we headed back, this time via the treacherous Low Hoh Route, i.e., the beach. This involved rounding many points and crossing over many small headlands in a mad struggle to Beat the Tide. After about an hour (just far enough along to rule out turning back), we came to one last point that required hybrid climbing (swimming techniques they don't teach in the Basic Climbing Course). The leader fearlessly plunged into the frigid rushing water and waded the twenty feet around to safety, clinging to the slippery vertical rock. The rest of the party, fearing desertion by the leader, followed. The water depth varied from knee-deep to waist-deep, depending on how you caught the incoming waves. Art displayed the poorest timing but provided good subject matter for some good photos, which can fit handily into the General-Inclement Weather-Winterscape-Rock Climbing-Beach Hike-People category of next years photo contest. Actually, the wading wasn't all that bad, since we had seven layers of clothes on
and they were all soaked by that time anyway.

The rest of the trip was relatively uneventful: a short hike over Hoh Head and a demonstration of salmon netting by the Hoh Indians. All participants then signed a Secret Pact to tell everybody what a great character-building adventurous wilderness experience it had all been. Well, at least we solved the mystery of Mystery Cabin. The hardy explorers: Bruce Gaumond (leader), Bob Lesmeister (transportation) Ewalds D’Sylva, Ron Peltola (invaluable for pulling off our boots back at the car, and entertainment), and Art Wolfe (entertaining).
The Boeing Alpine Society is indeed proud to present the Redoubt High Route for our December's meeting entertainment. Taking place early last August this nine day high traverse provided access to perhaps the most remote group of peaks in the Washington Cascades. Lying between the Canadian border on the north and the Northern Pickets to the south this seldom traveled area offered spectacular panoramas of the surrounding glacier clung ramparts as well as close up glances at the plant and animal life that inhabit their lofty domain. We believe this presentation will be both interesting and informative and sincerely hope that there is a large attendance present to view it. The speaker will be Art Wolfe.

News items and editorial comment contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Boeing Company.
President Jack Leicester called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. in the Royal Fork Restaurant, Mercer Island. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

Past Presidents of BOEALPS who were in attendance were introduced and received a round of applause. The officers and chairmen of the previous year were thanked for their efforts. The new officers and chairmen were introduced and welcomed.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: None

New Business:
Jack Leicester was thanked for his efforts as acting president of the club the past several months. Jim Reed led in a round of applause.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 to hear an excellent presentation by Pete Schoening on some recent climbing in the Soviet Union.

Al Mercer

TREASURERS REPORT

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Clarke Kido, Treasurer
The following letter was received in reply to the Celebrities-We-All-Know-Department in the October issue of the Echo.

1, November 1974

Editor, The Echo

Your last issue contained an article pertaining to an advertisement appearing in several national periodicals. To set the record straight:

The mountains are Big Four and Hall Peak.
The model in the foreground is indeed a Boealp's Instructor.

The blue pack is NOT a Brand K_____. It is the prototype of the new JanSport Greatsacks - "For the purist who knows how to pack, close riding packs that distribute the load uniformly over the back, shoulders, and hips without the use of a packframe. Support comes from the combination of aluminum stays (bent to the contour of the individual's back) and proper packing (column loading of the three columnar sections of the pack's main compartment). Available in yellow or blue cordura nylon, in two sizes". (Unpaid ad - J.L.)

It should be noted that several Boealp members were of great assistance in the testing and critiquing of this new model last spring and summer. Perhaps some confusion exists from the fact that some testing involved direct comparisons with brands K, R, and C. Needless to say, the JanSport Greatsack has been refined to a point where it is significantly superior to its competition.

Thank you,

An Ex-JanSport Executive

ACTIVITIES

Dec. 7 - Late season fitness maintainer, very early season conditioner - Mt. Si - meet at parking lot at 9:00 AM or Kent at 8:00 AM. Contact Russ Kroeker (home) 631-1772 (work) 773-8734.


Dec. 15 - Snowshoe hike to Panorama Point, Mt. Rainier. Contact Bruce Gaumond (home) 246-2220 (work) 773-2620.
Dec. 21-23 - Mt. Rainier - route undecided, depending on weather. Contact Glenn Hitchcock (home) 246-9082 (work) 655-6516.

Dec. 26-31 - Three to four day holiday beach hike, glass float hunt and mussel feast, Rialto Beach to Sand Point, Elegant Conduxe at Cedar Creek Shelter. Contact Art Wolfe 935-7674.

Jan. 4 or 5 Early season conditioner, Crystal Mt. or Cotal Pass hike, perhaps on snowshoes. Contact Bob Lesmeister (home) 839-0583 (work) 246-2741.

Jan. 11-12 - Camp Muir snowshoe or ski hike. Contact Jack Leicester (home) 246-2086 (work) 342-5372.

Jan. 25-26 - Hoh River rain forest overnight hike. luxurious accommodations at Olympic Meadow to survey wintering elk. Contact Bruce Gaumond (work) 246-2520 (home) 773-2620.

Feb. 1 or 2 1 day snowshoe hike to Twin Lakes or Austin Pass. Contact Art Wolfe 935-7674.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Mt. Rainier - An Attempt

On the thirteenth of July a climbing party of ten left Paradise in Mt. Rainier National Park with the intent to climb the mountain via the Kautz Glacier - a route of intermediate difficulty. Plans called for establishing a camp at 8000+ feet Saturday night and for a high camp at Camp Hazard below the Wilson Ice Wall Sunday night. Early Monday morning the party would start for the 14,410 foot summit.

The weather on Saturday was excellent. A cloudless sky and warm temperatures made life at 8,000 feet ecstatic. The weather forecast was good, spirits were high.

Sunday we awoke to find a large lenticular cloud covering the mountain from 11,000 feet upward. The rest of the sky was cloudless, and warm temperatures prevailed. Jim Burrows and I were the first to leave for Camp Hazard.

We had traveled about fifty yards when a shout from the climb leader brought us back to camp. He said that he was considering leaving the mountain because he was convinced the lenticular cap foretold bad weather. Jim and I decided to continue to high camp. Since the weather was good, we felt that the eight others would follow.

An hour and a half later we looked down and saw the others descending. Jim and I discussed our situation. We had a stove, we had sufficient fuel, we had plenty of food, but we had no tent. We had a tarp that could be used as a make-do shelter. The weather was excellent, so we decided to proceed to Camp Hazard at 11,300 feet. As we reached our destination, the lenticular cloud disappeared.

Camp Hazard is a triangularly shaped area of exposed rock nestled directly below the Wilson Ice Wall. Steep gullies on either side route the ice avalanches away from the camp. Although evidence of large avalanches down the
adjacent chutes abounded, none occurred during our stay there. However, that evening a massive avalanche rolled down the mountain three chutes west of our camp.

That night found the two of us alone on that gigantic mountain, huddled under a tarp on a rock island in a sea of ice and snow. Out of a cloudless sky the winds sprang forth, tearing at the cover which protected us. The tarp flapped and flailed us throughout the night, making sleeping difficult and at times impossible. I wondered why I had come there, knowing full well that I would do it again as soon as the next opportunity arose. Such is the climber's paradox.

As planned we arose at 3:00 A.M. Breakfast was a simple affair - previously cooked hard boiled eggs, dry granola, a candy bar, and a drink of water - all under a wildly flapping tarp. The body thus fueled, we crawled out into the elements.

Bitter cold and strong winds shocked our tired minds to wakefulness. Fingers numbed as we donned our crampons. At 4:00 A.M. we departed, skirting the 200 foot high ice cliffs which we hoped would stay frozen in place.

We climbed the Kautz Glacier. As the wind velocity increased, the chill factor dipped to thirty degrees below zero! In the middle of July I felt my toes aching due to the cold. I wore wind pants to prevent heat loss from my legs, and for the first time I found that it was cold enough to wear my down parka while climbing.

We plodded upward through the thin air. At times the wind blew so strongly that as I lifted a foot to step forward I was spun about and left facing the opposite direction. Dawn brought no relief from the cold at 12,000 feet.

My clothing was doing an effective job of insulating me. Except for the toes on my right foot, I was reasonably comfortable. The intense cold at last took its toll and at 13,500 feet Jim decided to turn back. In retrospect, his decision was correct, but on the mountain with less than a thousand feet to gain to the summit and with over thirteen hours of daylight left - I resisted.

Discretion did prevail and we retreated. We reached Camp Hazard under a bright sun, and unhawed on the warm rocks. My toes were numb. After an hour's rest we packed and descended. By 4:00 P.M. we were off the mountain.

There is a happy footnote to this story. Within one week and with another party I reached the top of Mt. Rainier. The mountain, having taught me humility, was then gracious: I stood in warm sunshine on the summit.

Glenn Hitchcock - 1974

Toleck Point, October 26 - 27.

It was a cold, dark, rainy, stormy, howling night as we huddled in the loft of the luxurious Toleck Point hostel, held at bay by the rampaging skunks, mice, rats
and other unidentified varmints, rodents and beasties below. Fortunately, our food was hung rafter-high, so we were not to starve for the next day. Unfortunately, an inquisitive spotted skunk (first introduced to all you faithful readers in last year's Toleak Point installment) tends to leave, wherever he trots (my pack mostly), smelling pungently skunky. I spent the next day walking directly downwind from the main body of the party. L.N. finally met his namesake.

We arrived at the 3rd Beach trailhead Saturday morning in overcast weather to count only 5 cars, about 70 fewer than all you summer hikers encounter. At this point, we made the tactical decision to abandon the tents and trust fate that the T.P. shelter would be empty (of people anyway). This guaranteed that we were to spend the next four hours watching the storm clouds amass and worrying about the not-so-remote possibility that the shelter would be occupied and we would have to survive the night sans-tents huddled together in the wet underbrush. In the end we decided peace of mind would have been worth six extra pounds.

The trail to 3rd Beach is luxurious, 4 feet wide and 4 inches deep in beauti-bark - a far cry from the 4-inch-mud you all remember so dearly. Along the way, recent rains had spawned mushrooms, fungi, and many other sorts of non-chlorophyll flora in profusion. Many were identified by Ms. Bunker en route, although none to the certainty required for eating. As mountain-sage and recent Time-Life star John Pollock has said, "Every year, mushroom experts are found dead in the woods, identification guides under their arms".

The always-too-short hike down 3rd Beach was followed by the high route over Taylor Point on a reasonably dry pre-monsoon trail, featuring more mushrooms. Descending to the beach, we then had 3 miles of interesting walking along the varied shoreline to Toleak Point. Low point of the journey (about 2 feet below sea level) was when the leader got bored of sitting on the big rock below Scott Bluff waiting for the tide to recede a bit more, and ventured forth between unpredictable waves across the last 30 feet of open water, rock to rock. He discovered the phenomenon that the water is deepest just shoreward of each submerged rock, and found that his 18" green rubber waders were at least 20 inches too short. The rest of the party watched amusedly, then proceeded to step in the same holes just explored by the leader.

The shelter was found to be occupied by only 2 people; the rest of that party (8 kids) were mercifully camped down near the beach. We moved in, and then explored the tidepools, choreographed an amassed flock of 500 seagulls, and played frisbee. (Anyone know how to throw a frisbee into a 30-knot wind?) We then retired to a leisurely banquet, featuring three entrees each, flickering candlelight, and an elegant red wine (Yakima Valley 1975). Dave then amazed the assembled kids with 3-shell sleight-of-hand theatrics. Finally, we discovered a rustic checkerboard, and the serious competition began. First the limpets beat the clams, then the limpets beat the rocks, then it was rocks over clams, clams over limpets, rocks over clams again, and limpets over clams (twice). Final standings will await further match-ups on subsequent beach hikes. At last, we blew the candles out, and the real nocturnal activity began (see opening paragraph). We refrained from throwing any boots at the skunks, and they responded politely by refraining from fumigating the premises.

It rained, blew, stormed and howled all night (see opening paragraph) but by morning it was just foggy and by the time we took off the sun was breaking through. We assessed the skunk damage and found it to be negligible. We headed back around
11:00 A.M., found Taylor Point a morass from the previous night's rain, and lingered at 3rd Beach flushing our boots in the surf, and then clamored up the single sea-stack at mid-beach. We then returned to the cars, where the leader depleted his remaining energies trying to extricate his size 9 wet feet from his size 8½ wet green boots. We finally retired to the Vagabond in Forks for dinner, and are happy to note that their heretofore acclaimed elk (although more pointy) is actually at least 10 inches smaller than the set Art Wolfe carried out 18.4 miles from last August's Olympic trek. Speaking of Art Wolfe, it should be noted that he was to lead a second Tooleak Point party in on Sunday and pass us en-route. A subsequent phone call verified our suspicions that he never got out of bed that day.

The party was comprised of Bruce Gaumond (limpets), Dave Gerada (rocks), Sue Bunker (clams), and little Bruce (our spotted midnight rambler).

MISCELLANEA COLUMN

(All news, notes, musings, want-ads, suggestions and exhortations welcome in this space.)

Glenn Hitchcock has a number of books for sale at vastly reduced prices:

- Freedom of the Hills (3rd ed.) $7.00
- Becky's Cascade Alpine Guide 7.00
- Olympic Climber's Guide 4.00

Contact Glenn at the monthly meetings, or call him at 635-6036 (work) or 246-9082 (home)

Anyone interested in receiving a copy of the BORALPS BY-LAWS contact Glenn Hitchcock.

NEXT-TO-LAST-NOTICE

The annual photo contest is coming up at the January meeting (January 9th). Use all this rainy weather to sort through your past season's accumulations of slides, color prints, and B&W prints. Don't wait until the last minute. More details to be published in the next Echo.

Lonely, bored, lackadasical, getting out of shape? Like to meet new friends, participate in exciting new activities, test your mettle against the wilderness. Exclusive contacts; inquiries confidential. Call Activities Chairman Russ Kroeker and sign up for wintertime activities - 773-0734 (work) or 631-1772 (home).

LEARN TO WRITE/DRAW AT HOME IN YOUR SPARE TIME

Become a published author/artist, earn the admiration and respect of your friends, and open new career horizons, by contributing to the Alpine Echo, the mouthpiece of your club and general open forum for anything in English (sorry J.O.B.) you can get to the Editor by the monthly press deadline. Tell us about your climbing/canoeing/biking activities (club or otherwise). All manner of reports, ramblings,
and miscellaneous of-interest filler welcome. Also cartoons and sketches.
Echo deadline is the 25th of each month.

FOR SALE

Ladies brown suede dress boots from Eddie Bauer. Almost to knee style, in good
condition, size 7½. Allergy to fleece lining forces owner to sell. $25.00 or
offer. Contact Mrs. Glenn Hitchcock at 246-9082.

SECOND HIGHEST PEAKS IN WASHINGTON (Unofficial)

(look for these on Russ’s 1975 activity schedule)

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FACE IT HARVE WE'LL JUST HAVE TO HIKE DOWN THE ROAD AND COME BACK FOR YOUR CAR NEXT SPRING.