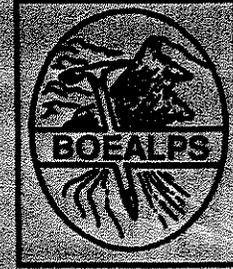


# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

January 2000



## BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY

President	Bill Harrison	206-662-2487 william.l.harrison@boeing.com	Equipment South	Mike Jacobsen	253-657-1438 michael.f.jacobsen@boeing.com
Vice President	Norene Borg	425-237-6991 norene.a.borg@boeing.com	Central	Silas Wild	206-527-9453 silaswild@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ed Alejandro	425-865-2217 ed.alejandro@boeing.com	North	Andy Roth	425-342-1308 andrew.s.roth@boeing.com
Secretary	Glenn Tomchik	425-234-5141 glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com	Librarians	Scott and Stacy Drum	206-783-3668 sndrum@hotmail.com
Past President	Rich Baldwin	206-544-7580 richard.f.baldwin@boeing.com	Membership	Beth Sundquist	425-266-1437 beth.sundquist@boeing.com
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			Home Page		<a href="http://www.boealps.org/">http://www.boealps.org/</a>
			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: Paradise Lost by Tim McGuire

From Beth Sundquist 39-PU

## January General Meeting

Don Beavon will be the main presenter this month – Don summited Mt. Everest in 1998, and is currently planning a climb of Mt. Damavand (18,600') in Iran in 2000.

He will be presenting a talk on expedition planning to remote destinations. In addition to Don's presentation, Katy Rusho and Len Kannapell will present a short slide show on the Intermediate Climbing Class. The presentations will be augmented by tasty treats from Al Baal's kitchen – don't miss out!

**Thursday, January 6th**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting at 7:30 pm**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **January General Meeting ...**

Welcome to Y2K! Our programs are starting off the new century with a bang with a presentation by Don Beavon on remote expedition planning. Don successfully climbed Mt. Everest in 1998, and is going to be climbing Mt. Damavand (18,600', and the highest point in the Middle East) starting this January. The mini-show will be a presentation on the ICC2000, made by Len Kannapell and Katy Rusho. If you're thinking about signing up for the ICC this year, come and see what you're getting yourself into! Al Baal has volunteered home made treats, so don't miss out!

## **Change of Days...**

Starting in 2000, the monthly board meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, instead of the second Thursday. There was some talk about changing the general meeting to the first Tuesday of the month as well, but because of room scheduling problems we'll continue meeting on the first Thursday of the month for 2000. The change for the general meeting was proposed to help boost attendance at the monthly general meeting, since it was assumed a lot of folks were busy packing on Thursday evenings for weekend trips. Would changing the day of the meeting to a Tuesday (or some other day of the week) make you more inclined to show up at the monthly meetings? Drop me a line and let me know, and we'll take that into account when we schedule the meeting room for 2001...

## **It's that time again...**

If you haven't already renewed your Boealps membership for 2000, you're on borrowed time now! Take a minute to fill out the membership renewal form conveniently located near the back of this issue, and send it in along with your check so your Boealps membership and Echo subscription won't lapse...

## **Never Buy a Map again...**

Well, maybe never, but there's a very cool web site at <http://www.topozone.com> that has all of the USGS quads loaded and available for display and printing -- no charge! You'll need a reasonably fast Internet connection, and a pretty good printer, but you can create custom maps, first searching for major features, or latitude/longitude coordinates, and then centering the feature you're most interested in with a click of your mouse. No more having to buy 4 maps for a trip because your destination is at the corner of all four! In my testing, the printouts were pretty good, but not quite as clear as the purchased USGS quads. Still, for free, the price is hard to beat!

## **Rigging for Rescue...**

Last month I ran a little blurb about a class being offered in Canada entitled "Rigging for Rescvue". I also asked if anyone knew anything about the group and their course. Joyce Holloway replied with the following: "I have two search and rescue friends who have taken similar courses in Arizona (I think). They said there are only two groups/companies that provide this type of class, and the one in Canada is one of them. We (Search and Rescue) have one person signed up to take the class this spring and that person would be interested in carpooling." So, if anyone is interested in more info on this class, or has signed up and would like to carpool, please contact Joyce at (425)477-4393 or [joyce.r.holloway@boeing.com](mailto:joyce.r.holloway@boeing.com)

## **Homepage News...**

Have you visited our new web site yet? The address is <http://www.boealps.org> -- stop by and let our webmaster know what you think! We have been experiencing some slow access times, but the price is right, we get our own domain name, and all the CGI scripts requiring a password work again! Oh, the password (needed for activities and members roster) is: SLESSE

From the desk of your editor,

Matt Robertson

**February Echo deadline is January 20<sup>th</sup>**

## January, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> Happy New Year!
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Avalanche seminar lecture	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> New Moon General Meeting; Avalanche seminar lecture	<b>7</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>8</b> Avalanche seminar outing
<b>9</b> Mike & Doug's excellent adventure; Avalanche seminar outing	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Board Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>15</b> Mt. Higgins
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Martin Luther King Day	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Full Moon Echo Deadline	<b>21</b> Mt. St Helens XC Ski Trip; Skiing at the Pass	<b>22</b> Mt. St Helens XC Ski Trip
<b>23</b> Mt. St Helens XC Ski Trip; Snowshoe/ Picnic trip	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> BoBaby outing to Winthrop; Skiing at the Pass	<b>29</b> Ice Climbing Seminar; BoBaby outing to Winthrop
<b>30</b> Ice Climbing Seminar; BoBaby outing to Winthrop	<b>31</b>					

## February, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> General Meeting	<b>4</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>5</b> New moon Snowshoe/ Picnic trip
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Board Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>12</b> Lincoln's Birthday
<b>13</b> Mike & Doug's excellent adventure	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Echo Deadline; Aid Seminar Lecture	<b>18</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>19</b> Full moon Aid Seminar Outing; Mt. Washington (1-90)
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Washington's Birthday	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Leap Day!				

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs

## Mike & Doug's Winter Outing Series

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month, November-March

<b>Mountain/Area</b>	Somewhere on the Mountain Loop Highway, Stevens Pass or Snoqualmie Pass
<b>Elevation</b>	Higher than home
<b>Route</b>	Various
<b>Class</b>	2-3
<b>Grade</b>	I-II
<b>Approximate Times</b>	6-7 a.m. 'till evening
<b>Skills</b>	Basic class grad or equivalent
<b>Limits</b>	None
<b>Contacts</b>	Mike Bingle, (206)662-4929(w), (206)935-3992(h), michael.g.bingle@boeing.com Doug Sanders, (206)622-2140 x-217(w), (425)252-5331(h), DougSanders@aol.com

## The Summit

## Fridays 'till end of ski season

If you have Fridays off, or just feel like getting out for a few turns at "The Summit", AKA Snowcrumbly, Alpinsmall.

<b>Party Limit</b>	none
<b>Route</b>	Lift Serve Skiing
<b>Elevation</b>	3k
<b>Equipment</b>	Skis -- alpine, telemark, snowboard.
<b>Experience</b>	none
<b>Contact</b>	Brian Tryba, 425-255-5365, mailto:Rockmobster@hotmail.com

## Snowshoeing Picnic Series

(see below for dates)

Let's do some non-technical and fun snowshoe trips. The focus is more on hiking than climbing, unless the group has a tremendous urge to summit something. Destinations to be determined by weather and snow conditions. We'll do less driving and more wandering on foot, designate someone to plow the trail so the rest of us can enjoy ourselves, stop and break out sit pads and stoves, and enjoy the winter wonderland with warm stomachs. If it's raining, we'll try to climb high enough to catch snowflakes (or stay under umbrellas). Snowman-building skills a plus.

**Dates:** Sun Jan 23, Sat Feb 5, Sun Feb 20, Sat Mar 11

<b>Party Limit</b>	none
<b>Route</b>	TBD, Grade 1, class 1/2, all-day outings taking advantage of as much daylight as possible
<b>Elevation</b>	Above snow level
<b>Equipment</b>	Snowshoes, (poles/axe), stove, food easy to cook
<b>Experience</b>	must be able to walk and tell jokes at the same time
<b>Contact</b>	Steve Fox, 425-234-8606, mailto:sfox@eskimo.com

## Mt. Higgins, West Peak

Jan 15, 2k

The west peak is the easiest of the three Higgins peaks, and is rumored to be an excellent snowshoe trip, with a low avalanche danger.

<b>Party Limit</b>	8
<b>Route</b>	Dallas Kloke's "Winter Climbs" description, approx 4 hours up, grade I, class 2.
<b>Elevation</b>	4849'
<b>Equipment</b>	Snowshoes, winter travel gear
<b>Experience</b>	Snow travel
<b>Contact</b>	Matt Robertson, 425-957-5691 (w), 425-822-0455 (h), matt.robertson@boeing.com, M/S 7M-HC

## Mt. Washington (I-90)

**Feb 19, 2k**

With enough snow, we'll turn what's normally a 14 mile RT into a 6 mile RT with some fun, steep snow, and a bit of tree-whacking thrown in!

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** North rib, approx 4-6 hours up, grade I, class 2.  
**Elevation** 4000'+  
**Equipment** Winter travel gear (no snowshoes)  
**Experience** Snow travel  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, 425-957-5691 (w), 425-822-0455 (h), matt.robertson@boeing.com, M/S 7M-HC

## Bandera Mountain

**Mar 18, 2k**

The west ridge of Bandera offers a much safer route than the south slope of this peak. Mostly gentle terrain, with a short section of steep snow.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Dallas Kloke's "Winter Climbs" description, approx 4 hours up, grade I, class 2.  
**Elevation** 5240'  
**Equipment** Snowshoes, winter travel gear  
**Experience** Snow travel  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, 425-957-5691 (w), 425-822-0455 (h), matt.robertson@boeing.com, M/S 7M-HC

## Canadian Rockies

**last week of March**

Back country ski trip: Drive up to the Lake Louise area, ski into one of the Canadian Alpine Club huts for 3-5 days. Day trip skiing from hut.

**Party Limit** 6  
**Route** TBD  
**Elevation** 6k  
**Skills** Avalanche training, ability to ski w/pack, winter camping  
**Contact** Brian Tryba, 425-255-5365, mailto:Rockmobster@hotmail.com

## Three Fingers Lookout

**May 20-21, 2k**

Camp overnight at Goat Flats, then climb to the south peak. Ascend the three ladders to the lookout.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Trail (probably under snow), grade I, class 2.  
**Elevation** 4849'  
**Equipment** Silverton GreenTrails map  
**Experience** Basic Class or equivalent  
**Contact** Don Fraser, 425-294-5424, donald.m.fraser@boeing.com, M/S 07-52

### Submit activities to

Steve Fox  
425-353-9508  
sfox@eskimo.com

### Notes from the Activity Chair:

*Thanks to those who traded trips for pizza on Dec 7. They pepperonied the activities page with fun trips, knowing there is no tomato. Onion else have any activities? Cheese, olive this list of trips, see ya at Pineapple Pass!(groan...)*

# Boealps Activity Submittal Form

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time!*

## Submit activities to

Steve Fox  
425-353-9508  
sfox@eskimo.com



**REFRESHER**

**REFRESHER**



**MOFA REFRESHER**

Boealps will be offering a "MOFA Refresher" class in February/March 2000. This course is offered to those needing to renew their MOFA certification and have taken MOFA within the last three years. This is a quick way to keep up to date on your first aid skills. Four classroom sessions, including hands-on scenarios held outdoor, will be followed by one evening of practical exams conducted in conjunction with other MOFA classes at Camp Long in West Seattle. Graduates will receive American Red Cross Standard First Aid and CPR certification cards and a MOFA card.

This course is recommended for all current MOFA cardholders wishing to renew their certificates before it's too late. **Current or recent MOFA card required. MOFA cards are valid for three years.**

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays (TBD – February/March 2000)  
(Dates to be confirmed next month).

Time: 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Locations: Boeing Customer Service Center

Cost: Approximately \$45 (exact amount will be determined after 1<sup>st</sup> class)

Class Size: Approximately 24 persons

Instructors: Kathy Hasegawa, Joyce Holloway and Chris Rudesill

The class will be filled in the order that registration forms are received. To reserve your space, return the registration form and \$45 in the form of a check payable to Boealps.

If you have any questions, please call:

Name	E-Mail	Work Phone	Home Phone
Kathy Hasegawa	Khibachi@aol.com	(425) 814-5487	(206) 527-5281
Joyce Holloway	Joyce.R.Holloway@boeing.com	(425) 477-4393	(425) 888-4434
Chris Rudesill	Christoper.C.Rudesill@boeing.com	(425) 965-2683	(206) 729-0640

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**BOEALPS "MOFA REFRESHER"  
REGISTRATION FORM**

Name:

Mail Stop:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

E-Mail:

(Required to obtain syllabus in advance for reading assignments)

COMPLETE THE INFORMATION AND RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT (check payable to "Boealps") TO:

Joyce Holloway  
(425) 477-4393

MS 6F-06

## Mt. St. Helens XC Ski Trip - Anderson Lodge

January 21-23, 2000

Back by popular demand! Well, popular with the board anyway. It's back to the Anderson Main Lodge at St. Helens! (Check out more info at <http://www.andersonlodge.com>) Hate those \$15 Volcano Permits? Well here's your chance to avoid them legally – there's no fee to climb this time of year! This is a great opportunity to mingle with the old, the new, the different of the club, with opportunities for doing x-country and backcountry skiing, climbing Mt. St. Helens, playing ping-pong, jumping in the hot tub, and roasting in the sauna. The cost will be **\$47/adult** and **\$30/child**, which covers Friday and Saturday night lodging, Saturday breakfast/dinner and Sunday breakfast brought to you by Chef Rudesill and his culinary compadres. Bring your own Saturday/Sunday lunch and beverages. Families welcome!

The lodge has room for 50, with a group hot tub, two saunas, and it features an array of bunk beds, double beds, and even a few private rooms for families. You will need a Sno-Park permit to use the Forest Service trails around Mt. St. Helens, so come prepared. Climbing permits are not required this time of year, and if the weather is good and you are ready, willing, and able, a summit attempt could be in the offing.

How do you make a reservation? It's easy:

- Mail a check (**payable to Boealps**) to me (M/S 74-07 or see below) or deliver in person. Cash is considered a tip for the organizer, not a reservation.
- Include your phone number, e-mail, and how many beds you need.

In return, I'll send you an information sheet as well as directions. Beds will be assigned in order of payment received, so send your check in promptly for best selection!

Cancellations: The funds are *not* refundable if canceled (We have to pay for the food and rooms even if you don't show up). If we can find replacements to fill reservations we will do our best to refund part or all of a cancellation; however there are no guarantees we can make refunds.

Contact: Glenn Tomchik  
12818 SE 41<sup>st</sup> Lane #B203  
Bellevue, WA 98006-1246

[glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com](mailto:glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com)  
(425) 747-6285 (h)

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## Sikkum Thingchenkang Expedition 2000

April, 2000

Interested in a remote experience? Tired of the crowds in Katmandu? Then consider climbing in the Sikkum Himalaya on Thingchenkang peak (approx. 20,500 feet) which is east of Kanchenjunga (3<sup>rd</sup> highest peak in the world). Trip entails 30 days of trekking, mountain climbing and sightseeing in Gangtok and Darjeeling. The trip will cost \$4,200 per person, which includes: airfare, food, lodging, transportation, climbing permit, environmental permit, etc. Looking for 8 adventurous people. Proposed trip schedule would be April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2000. In addition, if you require more adventure, I'm also looking into a side trip to Bhutan for 2 weeks. Cost for Bhutan is \$3,000, which includes all expenses for 2 weeks of trekking. Looking for at least 2 people for Bhutan. Contact William Harrison at (206) 633-1220 or [William.L.Harrison@Boeing.com](mailto:William.L.Harrison@Boeing.com)

## Upcoming Seminars

By Len Kannapell

We've still got three seminars on the books for early 2000, and we could use some more participation in the first one, Gary Brill's avalanche safety seminar. Even though the first session has passed, Gary can send you to one of his REI/Mountain Madness classes to make up that session. Gary's other avalanche seminars are completely full for 2000, so this will be your only chance to take what is widely regarded as the best avalanche safety seminar in the Northwest.

### **Avalanche Safety Seminar:**

Instructor: Gary Brill

Lectures: December 16<sup>th</sup>, January 4<sup>th</sup> and January 6<sup>th</sup>

Location: Customer Services Center (where the Basic Class meets) from 6:30-9:00 pm

Field Outing: January 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>

Class Limit: 20

Approximate cost: \$80. This covers the textbook, lectures and the field outing. Note that a special permit from the US Forest Service may be required – if so, the cost could increase by \$10-\$15 per person. If you sign up, you will be contacted as soon as we know.

If you want to increase your safety in snow travel, this class is a must. You'll learn about avalanche terrain, causes of snow instability, and how to travel safely by recognizing unstable conditions. Your class fee (a bargain compared to the same seminar at REI for \$105!) covers three evening lectures and your choice of a Saturday or Sunday field trip to Snoqualmie/Stevens Pass.

How do you sign up? Contact Len Kannapell at (206)522-7022 (home) or at kannapell@yahoo.com

Note: A 457 kHz avalanche transceiver is required for the field outing. Bring your own or contact one of the Equipment folks (on the Echo cover) if you need a transceiver. If none are available, Gary Brill can provide one for a nominal fee (\$5-\$7) at the field outing.

### **Ice climbing:**

Dates: January 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

Instructor: Mark Andou

Location: TBD

Note: This is a conditions dependent seminar, as ice can be non-existent. For more info contact Len Kannapell (see above for contact information)

### **Aid Seminar:**

Lecture: Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>

Outing: Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

Location: Index

Instructor: Tom Rogers

We're also thinking about offering a crevasse rescue refresher course, possibly in May to coincide with the Basic Class outing to the Puyallup Glacier on Mt. Rainier. If you are interested in any of the above seminars, or have ideas or inputs for other seminars, please contact Education Chair Len Kannapell at kannapell@yahoo.com or at (206)522-7022.

## 2000 BOEALPS Basic Climbing Class

The Boealps Basic Climbing Class will be held March 8<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>. Orientation will be held on Tuesday, February 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oxbow Recreation Center, Room 201. The class consists of Wednesday night lectures combined with weekend outings. This year's class will be run by Shawn M. Paré. For more information, contact any of the people on the class flyer contained in this issue or any of the board members listed on the front of the ECHO.

### **WANTED: BASIC CLASS INSTRUCTORS**

Everyone who instructed last year should receive a commitment form by mid-January. If you do not receive a commitment form by this time, please contact Shawn Paré at 425-483-0548 to have one sent to you. If you have never instructed for the Basic Climbing Class and would like to, contact Shawn to receive information and an application. All instructors are required to have had MOFA at some time prior to the beginning of the class. Please send in your commitment forms as soon as possible as it is necessary to know how many instructors there will be for this year's class before February 16<sup>th</sup>.

If you can not instruct this year, but would like to help with other tasks that make the class run smoothly, please contact Shawn Paré at 425-483-0548.

**This ECHO includes a poster on the next page for this year's class. Please take it, make copies of it, and post them anywhere that is appropriate.**

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## 2000 BOEALPS Intermediate Climbing Class

The Intermediate Climbing Class is currently being organized for the 2000 climbing season. This is the class's fourteenth year.

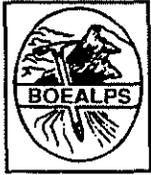
This course is being offered for those who have basic climbing skills and the desire to learn to climb some of the more technical and remote routes in the Cascades. In addition to having completed the Basic Course (or showing equivalent experience), students must be in good physical shape and be active in climbing outside an instructional framework. This does not mean that prospective students have to be super climbers - the ability to climb mid-fifth class rock on top-rope and negotiate a 40-degree snow slope with confidence is adequate.

**The course will cover the following areas in a seminar format: leading technical rock climbs, mountain safety and self-rescue, and snow and ice climbing techniques. We spend the remainder of the course climbing some of the Northwest's finest alpine routes, such as the West Ridge of Forbidden Peak and the North Ridge of Mount Stuart. The instructor-to-student ratio is approximately one-to-one, which allows personalized instruction.**

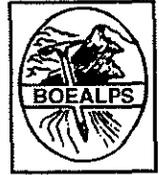
The course will run from mid-March through the end of August, requiring about two weekends per month. Contact Katy Rusho or Mike Bingle for further class details, specific dates, and a course application and information packet. March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the last date to request information packets, and completed applications are due no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Katy Rusho  
425-787-2469 (h)  
krusho@prodigy.net

Mike Bingle  
206-662-4929 (w) 935-3992 (h) before 9 p.m.  
michael.g.bingle@boeing.com



## *Boeing Employees Alpine Society*



# *2000 Basic Mountaineering Course*

### *Orientation & Registration*

Tuesday, February 29, 7:00 PM  
Oxbow Recreation Center  
9-150 Building Room 201

### *Class Meetings*

Wednesday Evenings  
Plus  
Weekend Outings  
March 8 through June 14

- **Equipment Selection**
- **Route Finding**
- **Safe Climbing**
- **Rope Use –**
  - Belaying**
  - Rappelling**
- **Rock Climbing**
- **Snow Climbing –**
  - Ice Axe Use**
- **Glacier Travel –**
  - Crevasse Rescue**



### **For More Information Contact:**

Joyce Holloway (425) 477-4393  
Doreen Bingo (206) 662-4403  
Al Baal (425) 266-3551

The Boeing Employees Alpine Society (Boealps) also offers an Intermediate Climbing Course. For more information on this course contact Mike Bingle at (206) 935-3992.

## Programs

By Victor Yagi and Al Baal

### **January General Meeting Program:**

The main guest this month will be Don Beavon, who, a year and a half ago, successfully climbed to the summit of Mt. Everest. He is planning an international winter ascent of Mt. Damavand, which at 18,600' is the highest mountain in Iran and the Middle East. He will tell us what it takes to plan such a remote climb and how his friendships on Everest developed into his current plan to climb Mt. Damavand. The Mt. Damavand climb will begin the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January, 2000.

And, for those of you thinking about taking the Intermediate Climbing Class (ICC) in 2000, Katy Rusho and Len Kannapell will present a visionary, but short, slide show about the fun and adventure that awaits you in the ICC. Find out what it takes to get ready for the challenge of the ICC and Washington's alpine peaks!

(Editor's note: I have it on good authority that Al Baal will be providing the treats for this month's meeting – you won't want to miss them!)

### **Upcoming Events:**

The February mini-show will feature Ken Hopping and his climb of Mt. Olympus last August. Two more shows have been planned, but not scheduled: "Scenes from Antarctica", and "Experiences of Doctors in the Developing World". Watch this space for more details, and send in your suggestions for programs, or volunteer to do a mini-show by contacting Victor or Al.

Victor: 425-477-4812 or victor.r.yagi@boeing.com

Al: 425-477-4812 or allen.c.baal@boeing.com

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## **Good eats...**

Well, I didn't get an overwhelming response to my request for your favorite pre- and post-climb food stops that I made in last month's Echo. Here are the two replies I did get – if you've got some more – anything along the Mt. Baker Highway, the North Cascades Highway, the Mountain Loop Highway, Highway 2 or I-90 - send 'em on in, and I'll run them next month!

From Steve Fox:

On Highway 20 a few miles west of Marblemount is Cascadian Farms, an organic farm with some fantastic ice cream. They also have the best raspberry jam, so pick some jars of that, too. I'm not sure how late they're open, but if you get out early from anything in the Boston Basin area, be sure to get a cone! Then you can wander around as you munch it and look at their organic farming displays.

From Tom Ryan:

The general store/café just west of the climbing shop in Mazama is a great stop for coffee, info, etc. The last time we were heading home via Highway 20 we held out for the Skagit River Brewing Company in Mt. Vernon. Well worth it, if you can stave off your hunger with some snacks left in the car. I've heard that the pizza place in Concrete is good, too.

## **Boealps Board Meeting Minutes December**

The December board meeting was held at Noreen's house. In attendance were Noreen Borg, Bill Harrison, Shawn Pare, Al Baal, Ed Alejandro, Eric Bennett, Val Hagman.

Ed gave the Treasurers' Report:

\*The year 2000 budget was discussed. It will be finalized on Monday.

Shawn gave the basics of the Basics Class:

\*The schedule for outings is from March 18/19 to June 10/11.

\*The non-Boeing employee Boealps club membership issue was discussed.

\*The Membership Chairperson will be responsible for sending out membership packets, signing up new members, and keeping track of which members are/are not Boeing employees.

\*New membership packets were discussed. They will be ready to distribute near the first of the year.

\*There will be an ad in the February Boeing News for the up-coming Basics Class.

\*There was some discussion regarding whether the club should use a portion of the Basics Class fee to cover the cost of the first Leavenworth outing each year. The timing of the event was also discussed.

Al reported on Programs:

\*There was some discussion regarding lining up speakers for the club meetings.

\*Various ways to increase attendance at the monthly club meetings were discussed, such as:

- More of the fabulous food Al provided at the last meeting
- Have some of the instructors give mini-shows
- Change the meeting night from Thursday to Tuesday
- Take a survey asking how to increase attendance

Bill gave the President's Report:

\*It was decided to change the date of the monthly board meetings from the second Thursday to the second Tuesday of the month.

\*The club is reminded that any Boealps club member can attend the board meetings.

Len reported on Activities (via telephone):

\*There are still 6-7 spaces available for the Avalanche Safety Seminar. The club should advertise it.

\*The Ice Climbing Seminar is still scheduled for Jan 29 & 30<sup>th</sup>.

\*It was suggested that the club offer a crevasse rescue/snow travel refresher seminar.

Bill adjourned the meeting at 8:17pm

Val Hagman, temporary secretary



## ***CONSERVATION CORNER***

By Troy Colyer

### **Presidential Proposal for Roadless Forests in Washington**

From the Cascades to the Appalachians, President Clinton announces a plan to save our wild places. Seeking to protect America's remaining wildlands, President Clinton launched a sweeping initiative to preserve 40 million acres of pristine roadless areas within America's National Forests.

In the announcement President Clinton said, "These are some of the last, best unprotected wildlands in America. They are vital havens for wildlife - indeed, some are absolutely critical to the survival of endangered species, and they offer unparalleled opportunities for hikers, campers, hunters, anglers, and others to experience unspoiled nature."

According to the Forest Service, there are almost 2 million acres of roadless areas in Washington, including the Dark Divide and the Entiat. The Forest Service will prepare and propose a rule to provide long term protection for most or all of the previously inventoried roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more, and to determine whether and how such protections should be extended to smaller roadless areas.

The announcement did not specify what types of activities would be prohibited. The president's charge will require the Forest Service to conduct an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will include a public review and comment process.

Details about logging, mining, and motorized recreation will be worked out through the rule-making process. Following the EIS, the agency will prepare rules for the use of the affected lands. Completion of the final EIS and rule is scheduled for late fall, 2000. A series of public hearings was held in Western Washington in mid-December (see link below).

more info: [http://www.seattletimes.com/news/local/html98/tree\\_19991213.html](http://www.seattletimes.com/news/local/html98/tree_19991213.html)

*This article reprinted with permission from Washington Trails Association's "Signpost for Northwest Trails" magazine.*

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### **Housemate Wanted**

Share our home in Ravenna! Great condition, hardwoods, fireplace, garden potential, quiet neighborhood & street. Walk to PCC, Bagel Oasis, Guido's Pizza, and Ravenna Park. Close to UW, Green Lake, I-5 & 65th St. Park & Ride. We're 32 and 33, reasonably clean & quiet, and enjoy outdoor pursuits & travel. We have two cats and prefer a nonsmoker w/o pets. \$425+ share of utilities, available now. Tom or Jacqueline at 206-527-2724.

## BOEALPS Library Inventory

<u>Book Name</u>	<u>Author(s)</u>	<u>Pub.</u>	<u>Copies</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<b>Adventure</b>				
Ascent of Everest	Hunt John	1993	2	
Ascent of Rum Doodle, The	Bowman W. E.	1979		
Breach, The	Taylor Rob	1981		Kilimanjaro and the conquest of self
Brooks Range Passage	Cooper David	1982		
Challenge of Rainier	Molenaar Dee	1971	2	
Eiger: Wall of Death	Roth Arthur	1982		
Everest the Hard Way	Bonington Chris	1977		Adventure story of the decade
Everest, the Cruel Way	Tasker Joe	1981		
Everest: The West Ridge	Hornbein Thomas	1980		
Expeditions to Nowhere	Sherman Paddy	1981		
Gervesutti's Climbs	Gervesutti Giusto	1979		Autobiography
Give Me the Hills	Underhill Miriam	1971		Women's account of climbing in the 30's
In the Shadow of Denali	Waterman Jonathan	1994		
In the Zone	Potterfield Peter			
Kongur, China's Elusive Summit	Bonington Chris	1982	2	
Last Step, The	Ridgeway Rick	1980		The American ascent of K2
Leading Out	deSilva Rachel	1992	2	Women climbers reaching for the top
Living on the Edge	Bremer-Kamp Cherie	1987		Winter ascent of Kanchenjunga
Men Against the Clouds	Burdsall Richard	1980		The conquest of Minya Konka
Mountain World, The	Swiss Foundation	1953	2	Years 1952-1955
Mountains of the Great Blue Dream	Reid Robt. Leonard	1991		
Nahanni Trailhead	Moore Joanne	1980		A year in the Northern Wilderness
Savage Arena	Tasker Joe	1982		
Storm And Sorrow in the High Pamirs	Craig Robert	1977		
Summits and Secrets	Diemberger Kurt	1991	2	
To the Ends of the Earth	Fiennes Ranulph	1983		Transglobe Expedition: First Pole-to-Pole Trip
To the Top of Denali	Sherwonit Bill	1990		Climbing adventures of N.A.'s highest summit
Total Alpinism	Desmiason Rene	1982		
Touching the Void	Simpson Joe	1990		
Trekking Peaks of Nepal, The	O'Conner Bill	1989		
<b>Biography</b>				
British Mountaineers	Smythe F.S.	1946		Old book, brittle pages
Degrees of Difficulty	Shatayev Vladimir	1987	2	
I Chose to Climb	Bonington Chris	1966		
Wager with the Wind	Greiner James	1978		The Don Sheldon Story
Women Climbing	Birkett Bill	1989		200 years of achievement

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<b>Climbing Guide</b>				
A Climbing Guide to Mexico's Volcanoes	Secor	R.J.	1993	
Alps, The	Sanuki	Matao	1969	2
Camping and Climbing in Baja	Robinson	John W.	1975	
Cascade Alpine Guide	Beckey	Fred	1973	Columbia River to Stevens Pass
Cascade Alpine Guide	Beckey	Fred	1973	Stevens Pass to Rainy Pass
Climber's Guide to the High Sierra	Sierra Club		1976	
Climber's Guide to the Olympic Mountains	Olympic Mtn.	Rescue	1972	
Climber's Guide to Yosemite Valley	Sierra Club		1971	
Climbing Guide to Oregon	Dodge	Nicholas	1975	
<b>Climbing Mt. Rainier</b>	Beckey; Van Steen	Fred; Alex	1999	1
Colorado's Indian Peaks Wilderness Area	Roach	Gerry	1989	Classic Hikes and Climbs - Signed copy
Cross-Country Ski Routes of Oregon's Cascades	Veilbig	Kiindt	1984	
Eldorado - A Rock Climber's Guide	Ament	Pat	1980	
Exploring Katmai National Monument	Publications	Alaska	1974	
Exploring the Coast Mountains on Skis	Baldwin	John	1994	A guide to mtn ski touring in SW British Columbia
Flatiron Classics	Roach	Gerry	1987	Guide to Easy Climbs in Boulder-Signed copy
Free Climbs of Devils Tower	McGee	Dingus	1981	
Guide to Climbing and Hiking	Farley	Bruce	1993	InSouthwestern British Columbia
Guide to the Colorado Mountains	Ormes	Robert	1979	
High Peaks, The	DuMais	Richard	1981	Climbing Guide to Mountain areas of RMNP
Highpoints of the States	Ashley	Frank	1970	
Hiking the Bigfoot Country	Sierra Club		1975	
Hiking the Great Basin	Hart	John	1981	High desert of California, Oregon, Nevada, Utah
Hiking the Teton Country	Sierra Club		1973	
Idaho Rock	Green	Randall	1987	Climbing guide to the Selkirk Crest and Sandpoint areas
Mexico's Volcanoes:A Climbing Guide	Secor	R. J.	1993	
Mont Blanc Massif, The	Rebuffat	Gaston	1973	The 100 finest routes
Mount Cook Guidebook, The	Logan	Hugh	1982	A climbers guide to the Mt. Cook Region
Mount Cook Guidebook, The	Misc			Maps and Information
<b>Mount Rainier -- A Climbing Guide</b>	Gauthier	Mike	1999	1 Great routes expertly detailed by first hand experience.
Rock Climber's Guide to Lumby Ridge	Salaun	Chip	1980	Guide to Lower Rocky Mountain National Park
<b>Rock Climbing Washington</b>	Smoot	Jeff	1999	1 Select guide to Washington rock climbing areas
Rock Mountain National Park	Roach	Gerry	1988	Classic Hikes and Climbs
Rocky Mountain National Park	Gillet	Bernard	1993	
Selected Free Climbs of the Black Hills Needles	McGee	Dingus	1981	
Trekking in Tibet	McCue	Gary	1991	
Washington State Trails Directory	Interagency			6 Trails Directory
Wastach Granite	Smith	David	1977	Rock climbing guide
<b>Field Guide</b>				
Fire and Ice	Harris	Stephen	1976	2 Cascade Volcanoes
Glaciers of North America	Ferguson	Sue	1992	
Guide to Western Wildlife	Handcock	David	1977	2
Mountains of the World	Bueler	William	1970	A handbook for climbers and hikers
Northwest Trees	Arno	Stephen	1977	

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<b>History</b>					
Mountain Fever, Historic Conquests of Rainier	Haines	Aubrey	1962		
On Top of the World	Miller	Laurie	1984		Five women explorers in Tibet
Sivalaya	Baume	Louis	1979		Exploration of the 8000 meter peaks of the Himilaya
<b>Instruction</b>					
Accidents in North American Mountaineering	Alpine	Club of Amer.	1994		
Adventure of Caving	McClurg	David	1986		A practical guide for advanced and beginning cavers
American Alpine Journal	Alpine	Club of Amer.	1970		
American Alpine Journal	Alpine	Club of Amer.	1985		
American Alpine Journal	Alpine	Club of Amer.	1972		
Avalanche Safety for Skiers and Climbers	Daffern	Tony	1992		Good book on avalanche awareness
Basic Rockcraft	Robbins	Royal	1977		
Climbing Anchors	Long	John	1993		
Climbing Ice	Chouinard	Yvon	1978	2	
<b>Conditioning for Outdoor Fitness:</b>	Musnick	Dave	1999	1	Details specific training ideas/approaches for climbers...
Free-Heel Skiing	Parker	Paul	1988		The secrets of Telemark and Parallel techniques
Going High	Houston	Charles	1980	2	The story of man and altitude
How to Shit in the Woods	Meyer	Kathleen	1989	2	An environmentally sound approach to a lost art
Ice World	Lowe	Jeff	1996		Techniques and experiences of modern ice climbing
Learning to Rock Climb	Loughman	Michael	1981		
McKinley Climber's Handbook	Randall	Glenn	1984		
National Parks, The	US Govt		1993		Index to Parks
Norhtwest Mountain Weather	Renner	Jeff	1992	2	Understanding and forecasting for the backcountry user
Snowshoeing	Prater	Gene	1974		
Surviving Denali	Waterman	Jonathan	1983		A study of accidents on McKinley 1910-1982
<b>Literature</b>					
Armchair Mountaineer, The	Reuther	David	1984		Triumphs and tragedies of ascent from fact and fiction
<b>Ascent: The Climbing Experience in Word &amp; Image</b>	Harris; Roper	David; Steve	1999	1	"Fiction, poetry and true life tales and photos of climbing."
Canadian Mountaineering Anthology, The	Fairly	Bruce	1994		
Cascade Volcanoes	Bates	Malcolm	1992		Conversations with Washington Mountaineers
Cloud Dancers	Waterman	Jonathan	1993		Portraits of North American mountaineers
Mixed Emotions	Child	Greg	1993	2	Mountaineering writings
Mountaineering and its Literature	Neate	W.R.	1980		Bibliography of selected works.
Mountaineering Literature	Neate	Jill	1986		Bibliography of selected works.
<b>North Cascades Crest</b>	Martin	James	1999	1	Well known writers' tales and fantastic, professional pics.
<b>Off the Beaten Track</b>	Smith	Cyndi		1	Interviews with female Canadian climbers

- Book Checkout Policy:**
1. Sign each book out, preferably during each Boealps' General Meeting--1st Thurs. of each month--in the provided binde
  2. Return book within 1-2 months, at a subsequent General Meeting, by signing it back into the binder.
  3. Special check out arrangements: contact the librarian(s) via given e-mail or home phone.

Note: New book **TITLES** for this year, 1999, are in **BOLD**.

## ¡Hola! from Quito, Ecuador...

By Dan Goering

On November 13 after 6 hours on a 737 from Houston, I spotted the lights of Quito and was soon staring at the baggage belt going round and round. And round. And round. Finally, it stopped and I was thankful Continental's employees spoke English so I could report my duffel missing in action. Unencumbered, I stepped through customs and up to the tourist info booth to see where I might find a place to stay at 11 pm. This is where things began to go right! A beautiful young woman found me a spot in "del hoyo" (the leaf) - a \$5/day bed and breakfast run by Javier and Maria Augusta Pena. The price included Javier picking me up at the airport and he has since been invaluable in calling the airport to check on my duffel, which finally arrived 2 days later. If you ever visit Quito, look these folks up as they are wonderfully friendly and helpful.

Javier speaks reasonable English, Maria Augusta just a very little bit. My bits of Spanish gleaned from listening to language tapes and driving around this summer with the grammar book buried somewhere in the van really didn't pay off that much, but determination and some creativity have gone a long ways. The next morning at Javier's suggestion, I caught the white with pink stripe and lettering bus out to Mitad del Mundo - a 7 story stone monument marking the equator. On the way, I managed to have a conversation of sorts with a young woman named Anna. I ran into her later that afternoon at the monument and we went together to the Indian Museum next door. Entrance fee is 10,000 sucres (about 60 cents) and includes a personal tour guide to show you the exhibits. So I had 2 very patient and very persistent young women who wouldn't let me move on from an exhibit until I said I understood what they were explaining. This was great for about an hour, but for the remaining 45 minutes, my head was swimming with new Spanish words and my level of comprehension plummeted. Nevertheless, it was a great visit: indigenous housing of mud and straw that was (supposedly) earthquake resistant, solar calendars and clocks, monkeys and giant tortoises, authentic shrunken heads (the ones sold to tourists now are shaved monkeys), giant boa constrictors preserved in formaldehyde and life size working versions of traps and snares used by the Indians of the amazon. Best of all was the coriolis experiment. From a location exactly on the equator, a pan of water drained with virtually no swirl (we were actually 2 seconds of latitude off so there was just a little swirl at the very end). 5 feet north, the water swirled vigorously counter clockwise. 5 feet south, clockwise!

My Seattle friend Dave Creeden arrived in Quito from a week in the Galapagos last Tuesday night and so I've been speaking more English than I should for total Spanish immersion. We caught a bus this weekend to the town of Otavalo where we arrived in fine Seattle-like weather: dark and raining. Otavalo is known for its Saturday markets, so we were up at 5 am to visit the animal market. This turned out to be a big field with various sizes of pigs and cows and turkeys and goats and sheep all milling around, belting out their complaints about having ropes tied around their legs or horns. I could have purchased a cow for 200,000 sucres (about \$110), but didn't think I could get it back to Quito on the bus. Next stop was the Panchos Market with a dizzying array of weavings, colorful paintings depicting local life and festivals, fantastic piles of multicolored fresh produce, leather goods and more mundane items like shampoo and shoes. You can get a big plate of a typical lunch at Fritadas Mamamicha: fried meat, boiled potatoes, boiled corn and also pan toasted corn -- kind of like slightly underdone cornnuts!

The rest of the weekend was spent hiking and mountain biking around the area. Ringing bells signaled the start of Sunday services in Pegucha and the townspeople filed in until there was standing room only. Dogs were welcome and wandered in and out, one attentively following a small boy. Hymns were sung to guitar music. If you didn't want to sit, you could hang outside and listen over the loudspeaker mounted next to the church bells.

Volleyball is big in Ecuador and every little village had a 3 per team game going in the town square with very competitive play, as quite a bit of dinero is bet on each game. There are also a lot of wandering dogs here, mostly laid back and friendly like the local people, but a few who delighted in chasing our bicycles. Other highlights were playing fussball with some kids in the village of Iluman and the family at the copy shop in San Pablo who asked us to read part of an English magazine into a tape recorder so they could practice English pronunciation. Dave and I struggled not to laugh as I read out loud the page they had selected: an advertisement for "The Pill". I expect this should be quite controversial in a country where 94% of the population is Catholic.

Guagua Pinchincha, the active volcano just outside Quito, has been spewing a bit of ash but has been mostly calm after the big ash eruptions of several months ago. The town of Banos to the south has been evacuated due to the eruption of Tungurahua, so that's off the list of places to visit but Dave and I plan to head that direction next to see it spewing lava. That's if the weather cooperates. It's the rainy season here at the moment and so views might be obscured. After this trip, I plan to sign up for an additional week of Spanish class as I really need it!

Before Quito, I was back in Seattle for 2 weeks to sell the van, and take care of all the business of getting into a single backpack for the next months of travel. I didn't find time to write up the adventures between Long Beach and Seattle, so here's the very quick summary. Spent 4 days on the N. Rim of the Grand Canyon hiking and calling my travel agent on the pay phone to arrange tickets to S. America. Next, hiked The Narrows and Angel's Landing in Zion followed by a hike through Buckskin Gulch to the Pariah River and back. Visited Jim Knight at Black Diamond in SLC and got a very interesting tour of the factory - highly recommended! Finally, the long drive back north with a stop in Bend Oregon at the Deschutes Brewery and a morning of climbing at Smith Rocks.

Gotta go now as I have a confusing mess of spanish verb tenses and conjugations to memorize!

## Non-Boeing Employee Membership

*Note: This does not apply to non-Boeing employees who are members under a Family Membership of a current Boeing Employee.*

In recent years Boeing has placed additional rules on non-Boeing employee membership in clubs including BOEALPS. Some non-Boeing employees must be "sponsored" to become members or renew a membership in BOEALPS while others are not (due to grandfather rules). Sponsoring entails the BOEALPS Board providing information to Boeing recreation regarding how a non-Boeing employee benefits the club. While no sponsorship candidate has been turned down to date, it is preferable to keep the members in the non-sponsor category to reduce paperwork and the risk of justifying the worthiness of a non-Boeing employee member. The rules governing whether a non-Boeing employee member must be sponsored or not are as follows:

- Members who were Boeing employees when they joined BOEALPS but, are no longer Boeing employees, may renew their membership without sponsorship.\*
- Members who were not Boeing employees when they joined BOEALPS may renew their membership without sponsorship if they joined prior to September, 1995.\*
- Members who were not Boeing employees when they joined BOEALPS and joined after September, 1995 may renew their membership but they must be sponsored.\*\*

### Notes:

\* Continuous membership from year-to-year with no breaks is required. If breaks occur, the member must be sponsored on subsequent applications. (Note: This has not been a strict policy in the past, but it will begin to be in the future.)

\*\* At this time, sponsorship is handled by the BOEALPS Board. No additional paperwork is required from the member signing up.

### Questions?

Contact: Beth Sundquist  
Membership Chair  
425-266-1437 (w)  
206-789-4185 (h)  
beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com

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## Another email list...

Joyce Holloway writes: I sent around information about a telemark ski class (sponsored by Washington Alpine Club) through the Boealps e-mail distribution list in December, and would be interested in getting an e-mail list of our own together consisting of beginning telemark skiers (more experienced too, if they would be willing to coach and mentor us!) for weekend practice sessions. If you're interested, please contact Joyce at (425)477-4393, or via email at [joyce.r.holloway@boeing.com](mailto:joyce.r.holloway@boeing.com)

# 2000 BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Read and complete the waiver on the reverse side of this form. This is required for membership.)

Please print: Name (First, MI, Last)

Social Security Number

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Mail Stop

( )  
Work Phone

( )  
Home Phone

e-mail

Age

**Check one membership type.**

New Member: \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**EMPLOYEE MEMBERSHIP (check one)**

Boeing employees or contractors and their dependents.

\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL (\$15.00)

\_\_\_ FAMILY (\$20.00)

\_\_\_ RETIRED (\$5.00)

**NON-EMPLOYEE MEMBERSHIP (check one)**

Renewing members of BOEALPS or sponsored applicants; sponsored applicants must obtain approval of the BOEALPS board and Boeing Recreation.

\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL FRIEND OF BOEALPS (\$20.00)

\_\_\_ FAMILY FRIEND OF BOEALPS (\$25.00)

**Club membership is only for those who sign up as an individual member, or are listed on the back of this form as dependents.**

Send application, signed waiver, and dues to:

**(Make checks payable to BOEALPS)**

Beth Sundquist

or:

M/C 39-PU

7021 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW  
Seattle, WA 98117

Additional information for membership database - optional but appreciated!

Year joined BOEALPS \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the year for any courses completed:

\_\_\_ BOEALPS Basic (team color: \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_ BOEALPS Intermediate

\_\_\_ Mountaineers Basic

\_\_\_ Avalanche Awareness

\_\_\_ Aid Climbing Seminar

\_\_\_ Standard First Aid/CPR

\_\_\_ Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Mountaineers Intermediate

\_\_\_ Ice Climbing Seminar

\_\_\_ Rock Leading Seminar

\_\_\_ MOFA

How often do you climb? \_\_\_\_\_

**GET INVOLVED:** Are you interested in organizing or leading an activity or outing?

Ice Climbing     Snow Climbing     Rock Climbing     Alpine Climbing

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name(s)),  
certify that I am aware of all the inherent dangers of mountaineering, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in mountainous terrain, accidents, or illness in remote places without medical facilities, the forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons.

I understand that it is not the function of the activity leaders to serve as the guardians of my safety. I also understand that I am to furnish my own personal equipment and I am responsible for its safety and good operating condition regardless of where I obtained it. I understand and agree that neither the Boeing Employees Alpine Society (BOEALPS) nor its officers, agents, operators, instructors, leaders of club sponsored activities, other assistants and the Boeing Company may be held liable in any way for any occurrence in connection with club activities which may result in injury, death, or other damages to me. In consideration of being allowed to participate in club activities, **I HEREBY PERSONALLY ASSUME ALL RISKS** in connection with said activities, and **I RELEASE** the aforementioned club, officers, agents, operators, instructors, activity leaders and assistants from responsibility for any harm which may befall me while I am engaged in club activities, including all connected risks, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable. **I FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY** the aforementioned entities and Company and persons from any liability, claims, and causes of action which I may have arising out of my enrollment and participation in this club.

I further state that I am 18 years of age or older and legally competent to sign this release (or in the event that I am a minor, my parent or legal guardian must sign this release), that I understand these terms are contractual and not a mere recital, and that I have signed this document as my own free act. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assignees, personal representatives, and for all members of my family, including any minors.

**I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Additional Family:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO BETH SUNDQUIST, M/S 39-PU  
OR: 7021 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Seattle, WA 98117  
OR: beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com

**NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY**

ALPINE ECHO

***January ECHO staff***

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributor: Dan Goering

*I could use more articles and trip reports! If you  
have any submissions - anything vaguely  
mountaineering or outdoors related will do -  
email them to me at  
matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in  
inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices  
will work, give me a call at  
(425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

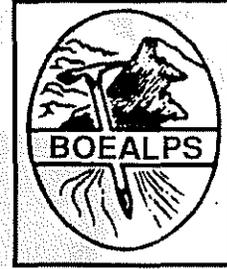


# ALPINE ECHO

C. Troy Colyer

6C-JM

February 2000



## BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY

President	Bill Harrison	206-662-2487 william.l.harrison@boeing.com	Equipment South	Mike Jacobsen	253-657-1438 michael.t.jacobsen@boeing.com
Vice President	Norene Borg	425-237-6991 norene.a.borg@boeing.com	Central	Silas Wild	206-527-9453 silaswild@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ed Alejandro	425-865-2217 ed.alejandro@boeing.com	North	Andy Roth	425-342-1308 andrew.s.roth@boeing.com
Secretary	Glenn Tomchik	425-234-5141 glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com	Librarians	Scott and Stacy Drum	206-783-3668 sndrum@hotmail.com
Past President	Rich Baldwin	206-544-7580 richard.f.baldwin@boeing.com	Membership	Beth Sundquist	425-266-1437 beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com
Activities	Steve Fox	425-266-8818 sfox@eskimo.com	Photographer	James Weisman	425-867-2043 jimw@slmd.com
Conservation	Troy Colyer	425-234-2424 troy.colyer@boeing.com	Programs	Victor Yagi	206-662-2162 victor.r.yagi@boeing.com
Echo Editor	Matt Robertson	425-957-5691 matt.robertson@boeing.com	Al Baal		425-266-3551 allen.c.baal@boeing.com
Education	Len Kannapell	206-522-7022 kannapell@yahoo.com	Web Master	Rob James	rob.james@gecm.com
			Home Page		<a href="http://www.boealps.org/">http://www.boealps.org/</a>
			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: Frostbite Ridge, Glacier Peak by Mike Jacobsen

From Beth Sundquist 39-PU

### February General Meeting

Meet "Da Man" – Fred Beckey himself! The prolific and prodigious climbing legend, the man of first ascents, world adventurer, and author of numerous books will be sharing his wit and wisdom on climbing and skiing in the Cascades. Don't miss a chance to see and hear the man behind the words of the Cascade climbing bibles, "Cascade Alpine Guides"!

Mini Show: Ken Hopping, recent intermediate Class grad, will tell tales from an August 1999 trip through the Hoh Rain forest to the summit of Mt. Olympus.

**Thursday, February 3rd**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting at 7:30 pm**

### ***IMPORTANT - This Is Your Last Issue!***

***To renew your club membership for 2000, and continue to receive the Echo, you must renew your membership by filling out the membership form on the next page!***

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **February General Meeting ...**

Get there early! Expect a large turnout on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to hear Fred Beckey recount some of his tales of climbing and skiing in the Cascades. This is one you're not going to want to miss!

## **Welcome to a new BoBaby!**

Ed Hahne and Martha Waldron would like to announce the arrival of their first child, Nathan Frederick Hahne, on December 21, 1999 and 8:22 AM! Ed says: "Nathan was born about 5-6 weeks early (at a bit under four pounds) but surprised all the doctors and nurses by being healthy and vigorous from the start. As is the case with about 50% of premature births, we have no idea why he decided to show up so early. Despite continuous optimism by the medical staff about going home early from the hospital, we ended up being there with him about two weeks as he gained strength and weight. He's now been home for about two weeks. He is thriving and gaining weight quickly (about 4 pounds, 10 ounces at 27 days old), although we're getting more and more sleepy!" Congratulations to Ed and Martha, and I hope we see the three of you on some of the upcoming BoBaby outings! (By the way, Ed – the sleep thing doesn't get much better for a long time!)

## **More Rigging for Rescue Info...**

These guys just keep sounding better and better! Here are a couple of testimonials from folks who know what they're talking about:

"We have had several of our members participate over the years in the Rigging for Rescue class held in Canada, and all of them have been very positive about the experience. They have also been valuable in coming back and passing that training on to the rest of the unit (they usually become one of our Rigging instructors). It sounds like a very intensive week (10 days?) where you not only get the practical experience, but a lot of theoretical practice as well (if you understand the concepts, it makes it easier for you to adapt the systems to your particular situation.)"

-- Russ Brinton, Training Chairman, Tacoma Mountain Rescue Unit

"...[Rigging for Rescue] are the premier source of RFR training in North America, and very likely the world. They are the ones that lead the industry in developing new standards for RFR, based on empirical testing. It is also where we send our members who we feel would be best suited to become one of our RFR "gurus". The classes are designed for search and rescue and fire departments, but would be well worth the trouble for anyone who does a lot of climbing; especially ones who are responsible for many people on a climb, such as an instructor. It is a very intense class that runs 12 hours a day for 7 days. The students learn everything they ever wanted to know about rope rescue techniques."

-- Mike Mosman, President, Everett Mountain Rescue

The "Rigging for Rescue" folks can be contacted at [info@riggingforrescue.com](mailto:info@riggingforrescue.com), and have a web site at <http://www.riggingforrescue.com>

## **Homepage News...**

Our web site is located at <http://www.boealps.org> – stop by and leave some conditions reports, browse the Notice Board, or check out a Pass Sno-Cam. If you have any comments or suggestions, send them on to our web master Rob James at [admin@boealps.org](mailto:admin@boealps.org). The password (needed for activities and the members roster) is: SLESSE

From the desk of your editor,

  
Matt Robertson

**March Echo deadline is February 17<sup>th</sup>**

## February, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> General Meeting	<b>4</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>5</b> New moon; Snowshoe/ Picnic trip
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Board Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>12</b> Lincoln's Birthday; BoBaby outing to Children's Museum
<b>13</b> Mike & Doug's excellent adventure	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Echo Deadline; Aid Seminar Lecture	<b>18</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>19</b> Full moon; Aid Seminar Outing; Mt. Washington (I-90)
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Washington's Birthday	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Leap Day! Basic Class Orientation & Registration				

## March, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> General Meeting	<b>3</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>4</b> West Ridge of Bandera
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> New Moon	<b>7</b> Board Meeting	<b>8</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>11</b> Snowshoe/ Picnic trip
<b>12</b> Mike & Doug's excellent adventure; BoBaby outing to Cabin Creek	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>18</b> BCC at St. Edwards
<b>19</b> Full Moon BCC at St. Edwards	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>23</b> Echo deadline	<b>24</b> Skiing at the Pass	<b>25</b> BCC at Mt. Erie
<b>26</b> BCC at Mt. Erie	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>30</b>		

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs

## Mike & Doug's Winter Outing Series 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month, November-March

<b>Mountain/Area</b>	Somewhere on the Mountain Loop Highway, Stevens Pass or Snoqualmie Pass
<b>Elevation</b>	Higher than home
<b>Route</b>	Various
<b>Class</b>	2-3
<b>Grade</b>	I-II
<b>Approximate Times</b>	6-7 a.m. 'till evening
<b>Skills</b>	Basic class grad or equivalent
<b>Limits</b>	None
<b>Contacts</b>	Mike Bingle, (206)662-4929(w), (206)935-3992(h), michael.g.bingle@boeing.com Doug Sanders, (206)622-2140 x-217(w), (425)252-5331(h), DougSanders@aol.com

## The Summit

## Fridays 'til the end of ski season

If you have Fridays off, or just feel like getting out for a few turns at "The Summit", AKA Snowcrumby, Alpinsmall.

<b>Party Limit</b>	none
<b>Route</b>	Lift Serve Skiing
<b>Elevation</b>	3k
<b>Equipment</b>	Skis -- alpine, telemark, snowboard.
<b>Experience</b>	none
<b>Contact</b>	Brian Tryba, 425-255-5365, mailto:Rockmobster@hotmail.com

## Mt. Washington (I-90)

## February 19, 2k

With enough snow, we'll turn what's normally a 14 mile RT into a 6 mile RT with some fun, steep snow, and a bit of tree-whacking thrown in!

<b>Party Limit</b>	8
<b>Route</b>	North rib, approx 4-6 hours up, grade I, class 2.
<b>Elevation</b>	4000'+
<b>Equipment</b>	Winter travel gear (no snowshoes)
<b>Experience</b>	Snow travel
<b>Contact</b>	Matt Robertson, 425-957-5691 (w), 425-822-0455 (h), matt.robertson@boeing.com, M/S 7M-HC

## February BoBaby Outing

## February 12, 2k

Since the winter rains and winds are upon us, having an "outdoor adventure" in the wilds of the Children's Museum in the Seattle Center House sounds like a great February outing! Please join us on Saturday morning, February 12, for some fun exploring and playing! The museum opens at 10:00 AM, and admission is \$5.50 for children 1-12, \$4.00 for adults (13 and up). Children under 1 are free. More information about the Children's Museum is available at <http://www.thechildrensmuseum.org>

<b>Party Limit</b>	None
<b>Equipment</b>	Diapers and snacks
<b>Experience</b>	Parenting, and answering lots of "But why?" questions
<b>Contact</b>	Maren Robertson, 425-867-4396(w), 425-822-0455(h) mnelson@physio-control.com

## Bandera Mountain

**March 4, 2k**

The west ridge of Bandera offers a much safer route than the south slope of this peak. Mostly gentle terrain, with a short section of steep snow.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Dallas Kloke's "Winter Climbs" description, approx 4 hours up, grade I, class 2.  
**Elevation** 5240'  
**Equipment** Snowshoes, winter travel gear  
**Experience** Snow travel  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, 425-957-5691 (w), 425-822-0455 (h), matt.robertson@boeing.com, M/S 7M-HC

## March BoBaby Outing

**March 12, 2k**

Maybe the weather in March will be better! We're hoping for a sunny day at Cabin Creek to enjoy some sledding, snowshoeing, XC-skiing and all around snow fun. We'll bring a stove to make hot cocoa, and plan to head home shortly after lunch so that all those who need to nap can!

Cabin Creek requires a Sno-Park Pass (available at REI, among other places). We'll meet on the north side of the highway around 10:00, and will find an open area relatively near the beginning of the trail. Plan on a short walk and lots of happy shrieks from all the kids!

**Party Limit** None  
**Equipment** Diapers, snacks, changes of clothes, lunch  
**Experience** Creative snowman building a plus  
**Contact** Maren Robertson, 425-867-4396(w), 425-822-0455(h) mnelson@physio-control.com

## Three Fingers Lookout

**May 20-21, 2k**

Camp overnight at Goat Flats, then climb to the south peak. Ascend the three ladders to the lookout.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Trail (probably under snow), grade I, class 2.  
**Elevation** 6854'  
**Equipment** Silverton GreenTrails map  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Don Fraser, 425-294-5424, donald.m.fraser@boeing.com, M/S 07-52

### Submit activities to

Steve Fox, MS 9U-RF  
425-353-9508  
sfox@eskimo.com

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## Maytag/Whirlpool Clothes Washer Needed...

...for rental house, where the old one went kaput. Contact Len Kannapell if you have a large capacity (16 pound or greater) unit that you want to sell. Thanks! (206)522-7022(h) -or- kannapell@yahoo.com

# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time!*

**Submit activities to**  
Steve Fox  
425-353-9508  
sfox@eskimo.com



**REFRESHER**

**REFRESHER**



**MOFA REFRESHER**

Boealps will be offering a "MOFA Refresher" class in February/March 2000. This course is offered to those needing to renew their MOFA certification and have taken MOFA within the last three years. This is a quick way to keep up to date on your first aid skills. Four classroom sessions, including hands-on scenarios held outdoor, will be followed by one evening of practical exams conducted in conjunction with other MOFA classes at Camp Long in West Seattle. Graduates will receive American Red Cross Standard First Aid and CPR certification cards and a MOFA card.

This course is recommended for all current MOFA cardholders wishing to renew their certificates before it's too late. **Current or recent MOFA card required. MOFA cards are valid for three years.**

- Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays (TBD – February/March 2000)  
(Dates to be confirmed next month).
- Time: 6:30 – 9:30 pm
- Locations: Boeing Customer Service Center
- Cost: Approximately \$45 (exact amount will be determined after 1<sup>st</sup> class)
- Class Size: Approximately 24 persons
- Instructors: Kathy Hasegawa, Joyce Holloway and Chris Rudesill

The class will be filled in the order that registration forms are received. To reserve your space, return the registration form and \$45 in the form of a check payable to Boealps.

If you have any questions, please call:

Name	E-Mail	Work Phone	Home Phone
Kathy Hasegawa	Khibachi@aol.com	(425) 814-5487	(206) 527-5281
Joyce Holloway	Joyce.R.Holloway@boeing.com	(425) 477-4393	(425) 888-4434
Chris Rudesill	Christoper.C.Rudesill@boeing.com	(425) 965-2683	(206) 729-0640

**BOEALPS "MOFA REFRESHER"  
REGISTRATION FORM**

Name:

Mail Stop:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

E-Mail:

(Required to obtain syllabus in advance for reading assignments)

COMPLETE THE INFORMATION AND RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT (check payable to "Boealps") TO:

Joyce Holloway  
(425) 477-4393

MS 6F-06

## 2000 BOEALPS Basic Climbing Class

The Boealps Basic Climbing Class will be held March 8<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>. Orientation will be held on Tuesday, February 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oxbow Recreation Center, Room 201. The class consists of Wednesday night lectures combined with weekend outings. This year's class will be run by Shawn M. Paré. For more information, contact any of the people on the class flyer contained in this issue or any of the board members listed on the front of the ECHO.

### **WANTED: BASIC CLASS INSTRUCTORS**

Everyone who instructed last year should receive a commitment form by mid-January. If you do not receive a commitment form by this time, please contact Shawn Paré at 425-483-0548 to have one sent to you. If you have never instructed for the Basic Climbing Class and would like to, contact Shawn to receive information and an application. All instructors are required to have had MOFA at some time prior to the beginning of the class. Please send in your commitment forms as soon as possible as it is necessary to know how many instructors there will be for this year's class before February 16<sup>th</sup>.

If you can not instruct this year, but would like to help with other tasks that make the class run smoothly, please contact Shawn Paré at 425-483-0548.

**This ECHO includes a poster on the next page for this year's class. Please take it, make copies of it, and post them anywhere that is appropriate.**

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## 2000 BOEALPS Intermediate Climbing Class

The Intermediate Climbing Class is currently being organized for the 2000 climbing season. This is the class's fourteenth year.

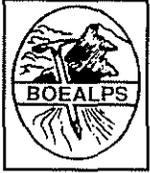
This course is being offered for those who have basic climbing skills and the desire to learn to climb some of the more technical and remote routes in the Cascades. In addition to having completed the Basic Course (or showing equivalent experience), students must be in good physical shape and be active in climbing outside an instructional framework. This does not mean that prospective students have to be super climbers - the ability to climb mid-fifth class rock on top-rope and negotiate a 40-degree snow slope with confidence is adequate.

**The course will cover the following areas in a seminar format: leading technical rock climbs, mountain safety and self-rescue, and snow and ice climbing techniques. We spend the remainder of the course climbing some of the Northwest's finest alpine routes, such as the West Ridge of Forbidden Peak and the North Ridge of Mount Stuart. The instructor-to-student ratio is approximately one-to-one, which allows personalized instruction.**

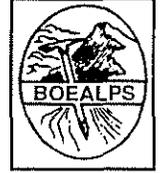
The course will run from mid-March through the end of August, requiring about two weekends per month. Contact Katy Rusho or Mike Bingle for further class details, specific dates, and a course application and information packet. March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the last date to request information packets, and completed applications are due no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Katy Rusho  
425-787-2469 (h)  
krusho@prodigy.net

Mike Bingle  
206-662-4929 (w) 935-3992 (h) before 9 p.m.  
michael.g.bingle@boeing.com



## *Boeing Employees Alpine Society*



# *2000 Basic Mountaineering Course*

### *Orientation & Registration*

Tuesday, February 29, 7:00 PM  
Oxbow Recreation Center  
9-150 Building Room 201

### *Class Meetings*

Wednesday Evenings  
Plus  
Weekend Outings  
March 8 through June 14

- **Equipment Selection**
- **Route Finding**
- **Safe Climbing**
- **Rope Use –**
  - Belaying**
  - Rappelling**
- **Rock Climbing**
- **Snow Climbing –**
  - Ice Axe Use**
- **Glacier Travel –**
  - Crevasse Rescue**



### **For More Information Contact:**

Joyce Holloway (425) 477-4393  
Doreen Bingo (206) 662-4403  
Al Baal (425) 266-3551

The Boeing Employees Alpine Society (Boealps) also offers an Intermediate Climbing Course. For more information on this course contact Mike Bingle at (206) 935-3992.

## Boealps Board Meeting Minutes January

January's board meeting was held on January 13<sup>th</sup> at Bill Harrison's house. Attendees were Bill Harrison, Noreen Borg, Ed Alejandro, Beth Sundquist, Al Baal, Len Kannapell, Victor Yagi and Jake Davis.

The first topic involved selection of a presenter for the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. We also talked about several speakers we would like to get over the course of the year. The year started off with an outstanding presentation at the January club meeting on a 1998 eco-climb of Mt. Everest by Don Beavon. That presentation was well attended. Our goal is to have a mini-show and excellent main speaker for all the club meetings.

The next discussion centered on schedules for annual events. We decided to have the photo contest in July, the picnic in August, club elections back at the Blue Star in September and to reserve a place, probably at the Mountaineers, for the club banquet in early fall. In regards to activities, we need an activity chairperson. **Any volunteers?**

Ed Alejandro is working on filing the club as a non-profit organization with the IRS. This is a significant task. Ed is requesting **help** from any club member with **accounting and tax experience**.

Len Kannapell gave a status of upcoming seminars on Ice and Aid climbing. The avalanche seminar had 20 people, which was the target, and went very well. Gary Brill has been asked to do a January 2001 course for the club. The ice seminar will be January 29-30 with a lecture on Wed., Jan.26 –possible venues are Banks Lake (near Coulee Dam) and Lilloet, B.C. The aid climbing seminar set for Saturday, Feb.19<sup>th</sup>. A crevasse rescue refresher will likely be one day, possibly coincident with the Basic Class Nisqually outing. Leaders for the Rock Leading seminars for the June & October campouts will be solicited.

Jake Davis from recreation talked about membership. Boeing recreation is working with insurance to allow a **90-10** rule, where 90% of the club must be current or retired Boeing employees and 10% can be whoever the club feels would be a benefit to the organization. So, it's important to remind people who are remiss on maintaining their membership to sign up. We must maintain a healthy Boeing employee membership.

Jake also affirmed that club members running a club **sponsored outing** that is attended by **non-club people**, must have the non-club people fill out and sign a **waiver** form for insurance purposes. Club members sign the waiver on their membership form annually. The form must then be sent to the activity chair. The activity chair will retain the signed waiver form for one year. Copies of the waiver form will be available in the Echo each month.

Bill Harrison, President

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## Sikkum Thingchenkang Expedition 2000 Update

To date, there are four people who want to go on this trip and three who have expressed strong interest. However, everyone who wants to go would prefer to go this fall. Therefore, the new schedule for the trip is as follows: (1.) India, Sikkum trek and climb, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2000 to November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2000, (2.) Bhutan trek, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2000 to November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2000. Ten people is the ideal team size for Sikkum and at least 2 or 3 for the Bhutan trek. Trip details in the original announcement are shown below. An initial team meeting will occur in late winter.

Interested in a remote experience? Tired of the crowds in Katmandu? Then consider climbing in the Sikkum Himalaya on Thingchenkang peak (approx. 20,500 feet) which is east of Kanchenjunga (3<sup>rd</sup> highest peak in the world). Trip entails 30 days of trekking, mountain climbing and sightseeing in Gangtok and Darjeeling. The trip will cost \$4,200 per person, which includes: airfare, food, lodging, transportation, climbing permit, environmental permit, etc. Cost for Bhutan is \$3,000, which includes all expenses for 2 weeks of trekking. Looking for at least 2 people for Bhutan. Contact William Harrison at (206) 633-1220 or William.L.Harrison@Boeing.com



## ***CONSERVATION CORNER***

By Troy Colyer

### **News on The Everglades National Park**

While the rain washes us away, let's look to sunnier climes at sea level for some relief. I recently escaped to Florida and was able to visit the Everglades. They were in much better shape than I imagined due to changes in conservation policies and management practices over the last decade. Here are some of the efforts that have occurred:

- Using canals and sloughs to drain water instead of the Everglades themselves. The water that does reach the natural drainage system is often nutrient rich and contaminated.
- Because the sheet flow process is crucial to the park, a water release schedule (the "rainfall" model) has been developed and implemented which allows water releases into the park in proportion to rainfall in the Water Conservation Areas.
- In 1989 Congress passed legislation authorizing the expansion of Everglades National Park by 107,600 acres. While half of this land will simply be converted from state to federal control, land acquisition of both residential and agricultural lands is required. To date 4,360 acres have been purchased.
- Highways are being raised and elevated to allow the return of water flow beneath them. Although very expensive, this is crucial to restructuring the water flow process.
- Water Conservation Areas that discourage development and promote natural flow system.
- A prototype flow-through marsh designed to filter nutrients from agricultural water before it enters Water Conservation Areas. In essence they are building man-made Everglades to accomplish the job the Everglades once did.

Surprisingly, most south Floridians are in favor of the wetlands over the need for winter vegetables, partly due to conservation campaigns, and also due in part to their need for clean fresh water for public consumption. However, the population of many areas in Florida is expected to double in the next ten years. It will be interesting to see if conservation efforts can keep pace with the effects of the population.

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### **Programs**

By Victor Yagi and Al Baal

#### **February General Meeting Program:**

##### **Main Show:**

Meet Da Man - Fred Beckey himself. The prolific and prodigious climbing legend, the man of first ascents, world adventurer, and author of numerous books will be sharing his wit and wisdom on climbing and skiing in the Cascades. Fred has over 1500 first ascents in Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska, including Liberty Bell, Mt. Deborah, and Forbidden Peak. He has authored the alpine classics "Challenge of the North Cascades," "Mt. McKinley: Icy Crown of North America," and the newly published "The Essential Climbing Guide to Mt. Rainier" with Alex Van Steen. Don't miss a chance to see and hear the man behind the words of the Cascades climbing bible, "Cascade Alpine Guides."

##### **Mini Show:**

Boealper Ken Hopping, will recount his August 1999 trip through the Hoh Rain Forest to the summit of Mt. Olympus.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

##### **March Mini-Show:**

Tom Rogers gives us the scoop about guided climbing in Yosemite National Park. He and John O'Callahan spent a week under the tutelage of a guide, climbing classic grade IV Yosemite routes in Tuolumne Meadows.

Two more shows have been planned, but not scheduled: "Scenes from Antarctica", and "Experiences of Doctors in the Developing World". Watch this space for more details, and send in your suggestions for programs, or volunteer to do a mini-show by contacting Victor or Al.

Victor: 425-477-4812 or [victor.r.yagi@boeing.com](mailto:victor.r.yagi@boeing.com)

Al: 425-477-4812 or [allen.c.baal@boeing.com](mailto:allen.c.baal@boeing.com)

## Education and Seminars

By Len Kannapell

### **Gary Brill's Avalanche Seminar:**

The outdoor practical was held the weekend of January 8-9, with 10 students going Saturday and the same on Sunday. The outing was held at Blewett Pass, where avalanche danger was high but not as extreme as in other areas. Field identification of avalanche terrain/potential, snow pit analysis, and transceiver search/recovery was covered, and all agreed it was a very productive class. I'm working on getting Gary signed up for a January 2001 class so we don't have as many scheduling conflicts.

### **Ice climbing Seminar:**

You might get this ECHO before we go, so here are the details – note, since this is the first time through, expect this to be a bit rough but a lot of fun. The specifics:

Lecture: Wednesday, Jan. 26 7-9 pm Oxbow Rec Center

Bring and discuss equipment (ropes, crampons, tools), hand out equipment list/maps for students

Outing: Jan.29-30 in Lilloet, B.C. (about 1 hour north of Whistler)

Review of French/German technique, proper use of tools, screw placement, lots of top roping

Since this is a club outing, and the 8-10 people who have expressed interest are mostly those who have never gone ice climbing before, this will not be as extensive as the ICC ice seminar and emphasis will be placed on getting basic familiarity with ice. One goal I have is to have every student do at least one top-roped lead on ice, regardless of difficulty.

I'm still getting information on ice conditions in the Duffy Lake area - it has been thin but it's getting fatter. Expect it to be a minimum 5-hour drive up to Lilloet after work on Friday (around 5 pm) and we'll shoe-horn students and instructors into an as-yet defined cheap motel in the area for Friday and Saturday nights. Climb Saturday and Sunday, leave Lilloet at 3-4 pm on Sunday.

If you want to go off on your own and climb, that is fine too. The core instructor group will be me, Ken Johnson, and Mark Hicks, but I can always use more. If you are interested, let me know if you want to help instruct, and show up at the Wednesday lecture

### **Aid Seminar:**

The aid climbing seminar is being offered again to torment the souls of free climbers everywhere. Come and be seduced by the evil joys of the Black Art of aid climbing. Stand in etriers! Bounce test dubious nut placements! Hang from manky bat hooks! Horrify your friends and family! Take part in an activity that is sure to discourage even the most tenacious free climber. On a more serious note, the workshop will cover aid techniques and equipment. Advanced nut placements, testing, hanging belays, hauling, cleaning, and following will be covered. These skills can be added to your 'bag of tricks' and will increase your ability to place clean protection. If time permits and some garbage rock can be found the basics of iron will be demonstrated too.

There will be an evening seminar on one weekday evening at the Oxbow Rec. Center on Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 PM in Room 202 and the climbing session will be at Index on Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Participants must have had exposure to setting up anchors and fifth class rock climbing. To register or ask questions, call **Tom Rogers at 253-773-8517** or email me at **thomas.a.rogers@boeing.com**. Please contact me as soon as possible.

### **Upcoming Events:**

We're still thinking about offering a crevasse rescue refresher course, possibly in May to coincide with the Basic Class outing to the Nisqually Glacier on Mt. Rainier. If you are interested in any of the above seminars, or have ideas or inputs for other seminars, please contact Education Chair Len Kannapell at kannapell@yahoo.com or at (206)522-7022.

## Winter Driving Regulations

Here's a couple of Washington State Administrative Codes (WAC) that you might find interesting regarding winter driving conditions, and when you're required to have chains. This is particularly relevant to those of you with four wheel drive vehicles - even if you don't have to chain up, you are still required to have chains in the car or truck!

### **WAC 204-24-050: Use of tire chains or other traction devices.**

- (1) Vehicles under 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight
  - (a) When traffic control signs marked "approved traction tires required" are posted by the department of transportation it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to enter the controlled area without having mounted on its drive tires at least one of the traction devices meeting the requirements of WAC 204-24-040.
  - (b) When traffic control signs marked "chains required" are posted by the department of transportation it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to enter the controlled area without having mounted on its drive tires, tire chains meeting the standards in chapter 204-22 WAC.
  - (i) Exception for all wheel drive vehicles. When "chains required" signs are posted, all-wheel drive vehicles shall be exempt from the chain requirement when all wheels are in gear and are equipped with approved traction devices as specified in WAC 204-24-040 provided that tire chains for at least one set of drive tires are carried in the vehicle.

### **WAC 204-24-040 Traction devices.**

The following equipment items are approved by the state patrol for use as traction devices wherever traction devices are required by the department of transportation:

- (1) Tire chains meeting the standards in chapter 204-22 WAC.
- (2) Studded tires meeting the standards in WAC 204-24-030.
- (3) Approved traction tires. An approved traction tire shall have the following tread characteristics:
  - (a) A minimum of 4/32 inch tread, measured in the center portion of the tire at three locations equally spaced around the circumference of the tire.
  - (b) A relatively aggressive tread pattern designed primarily to provide additional starting, stopping, and driving traction on snow or ice. The tread shall have ribs, lugs, blocks or buttons, the edges of which are at an angle greater than thirty degrees to the tire circumferential centerline.
  - (c) On at least one side of the tread design, the shoulder lugs protrude at least ½ inch in a direction generally perpendicular to the direction of travel.
  - (d) Tires manufactured to meet these specifications shall be permanently labeled on at least one sidewall with the words "mud and snow" or any contraction using the letters "M" and "S" (e.g. MS, M/S, M&S, etc.).
- (4) Special tires specifically designed to improve stopping, traction, and cornering abilities of the tire on ice or snow may be approved by the state patrol as an approved traction device.

# Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center

## Fact Sheet

*Mission Statement — The Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center promotes greater public safety by helping reduce the impacts of avalanches and adverse mountain weather on recreation, industry and transportation in Washington, Oregon and southern British Columbia through data collection, forecasting and education.*

**Avalanche Hotline — 206-526-6677 (WA), 503-808-2400 (Northern OR)**  
**Avalanche Center website address — [www.nwac.noaa.gov](http://www.nwac.noaa.gov)**

### Background

The Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center operates one of the most sophisticated and comprehensive mountain weather data networks in the world. Among other services, it:

- Collects and disseminates mountain weather data and forecasts local mountain weather and avalanche conditions.
- Saves lives and prevents costly search and rescue missions by educating and informing motorists and outdoor enthusiasts about avalanche and weather dangers in the mountains of Washington and northern Oregon.
- Helps to provide the Washington State Department of Transportation with the information it needs for avalanche control and highway maintenance to keep mountain highway passes safe and open for travelers and cross-state commerce.

### **Since the Avalanche Center began its work more than 20 years ago:**

- The numbers of backcountry users and highway travelers have greatly increased in Washington State. Even so, fatalities have declined from an average of three per year to 2.6. By comparison, national avalanche fatalities have jumped from an average of 11 to 27 annually, over the same period.
- The number of phone calls and Web site hits from individuals, organizations and agencies seeking information from the Center to help them travel safely in the mountains has increased from about 10,000 annually to more than half a million.

### The Friends of the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center

*Mission Statement: The Friends of the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center is a coalition of individuals and groups working to support the Avalanche Center and its scientific and educational efforts to promote the safety of mountain travelers.*

The group is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. It includes members or support from:

- The Mountaineers
- Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association
- Washington State Snowmobile Association
- Washington Ski Touring Club
- Washington Alpine Club
- Patagonia
- Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI)

***For more information about the Friends, visit [www.avalanchenw.org](http://www.avalanchenw.org) or call 206-615-2373.***

# Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center

## Funding Update

### Budget Deficit

The Center today anticipates a \$118,000 budget deficit in the current biennium (Fiscal Years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.)

### Center Budget

The Center's operations budget for the biennium is \$486,000.

### Expected Funding

Currently, the Center can expect the following funding for the biennium:

\$ 130,000 — USDA Forest Service  
\$ 86,000 — Washington State Department of Transportation  
\$ 80,000 — Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
\$ 39,000 — National Park Service  
\$ 22,000 — Private supporters, mostly the Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Assoc.  
\$ 11,000 — Parks and Recreation Commission Sno-Park/Snowmobile programs  
\$ 368,000 TOTAL

### Consequences of Deficit

*If the state Legislature, Congress and/or other Center supporters do not provide funding to make up the \$118,000 deficit during further budget negotiations for this biennium, the Center will close.*

### State Funding Status

The Governor has included \$78,000 for the Center in his proposed supplemental budget for the current biennium. It is hoped that the Legislature will approve that amount during the session that starts early in January 2000.

### Forest Service Funding Status

Efforts in Congress may return the Forest Service contribution to the Center to \$85,000 annually (its yearly contribution very recently was cut by \$20,000, from \$85,000 from \$65,000), but this decision hasn't yet been made. *Even if these efforts are successful, and the federal government finds the \$40,000 replacement funding for the biennium, the Center will still face a biennium deficit of \$78,000, which is the amount requested of the state Legislature.*

**For more information, please call 206-296-1984.**



## **Saturday 4/9/99 - Capel Curig (Pre-meeting day 1)**

The trip started with a Jagged Globe pre-meeting at Cobden's Hotel, Capel Curig [in North Wales]. Tim, the star turn [or star of the show], gave a talk on equipment surrounded by a pile of specialised equipment which resembled a down market boot sale. Only Ian and Gordon were at the equipment briefing but the glamour couple, Catherine and Mac, turned up around lunch, fresh from a holiday in Greece.

The next session was intended to give the leader some idea of the capabilities of the clients but the converse occurred. In retrospect it is clear that Tim had determined we were trouble and he was trying to reduce the numbers. First he had us climbing on Pinnacle Rocks with our eyes closed. He continued his campaign with a swim in a Welsh Lake and then he tried to lose us in a forest.

## **Sunday 6/9/99 - Capel Curig (Pre-meeting day 2)**

Sunday saw Tim's first attempt to teach us how to climb. The exercise was rope management; how to jumal up a 50 foot mini-gully in a lay-by [pull-out] alongside the A4086 [a main arterial], rather unrepresentative of the 100 metre snow headwall and ridges on the 6000 metre peaks of the Khumbu.

Next was a shopping extravaganza in Llanberis [in Wales], where the men bought matching blue jumars. Catherine revealed her true interests by ignoring the climbing gear and concentrating on the leisure clothes, a sign of problems to come.

All in all a revealing weekend which should have rung warning bells.

## **Sunday 26/9/99 - Flight to Kathmandu**

The team checked in at London Heathrow Terminal 3 for a Gulf Air Flight to Bahrain then Kathmandu. Tim was there early and he must have upset the check-in girl for she harangued all of us.

The aircraft was full but the food was good and we landed at Bahrain in good spirits with about an hour's delay. Then came the first of many schedule changes as the airline added another stop at Abu Dhabi.

The more assertive members of the team had grabbed window seats at Bahrain but were outmanoeuvred by a group of Italians who gained revenge for their defeat in the last war by using psychological warfare to regain the window seats. Even Dave's "drunk & asleep" ploy did not work.

## **Monday 27/9/99 - Flight to Kathmandu, continued**

There were great views of the mountains as we approached Kathmandu. The storm clouds around the city brought back memories of that terrible crash in September '92 which killed Dave Harries and Mike Hardwick, an accident which affected the lives and climbing of so many people.

We arrived just as the sun was setting and were met by the Summit Trekking crew at the airport. Amid scenes of chaos the Summit Trekking Pick-up was packed high with our brand new kit-bags. We bounced along roads with large pot holes, past dirty houses and shops and under-nourished people. By the time we arrived at the hotel some of the kit-bags were already torn and needed replacement.

The Summit Hotel is super, an oasis just south of the city in Patan. It has good rooms, good food and exotic surroundings.

Immediately the Khumbu Climbers attempted to assert their perceived primary role by designating the other Jagged Globe party, the Rolwaling group, as "Rolling Hills".

At the Summit Hotel we had our first contact with "Himalayan Dragon", a British Army project which aimed to climb each of the 18 Trekking peaks. There was a separate team for each peak; the organisation of the project was supported by Jagged Globe and Summit Trekking.

Tim gave us a briefing on the next phase of the trip. He started by saying that he was going to drip-feed us information. That may have been to allow our fuddled brains to cope with the flood of information to come or, more likely, to prevent an immediate revolt from the team in reaction to the changes.

## **Tuesday 28/9/99 - At leisure in Kathmandu**

Tuesday was spent recovering from the flight and looking around Kathmandu. In the morning most of us went to see some of the culture of the Nepalese but spent most of the time walking down the side streets of Patan looking for sights. Finally we found the temples and squares. The memory that remains is of women in a drugged state sitting cross legged in rather squalid court-yards stripping bright flowers of their petals.

In the afternoon we crowded into a taxi, risking the traffic to travel to the Thamel district to join all the other tourists. We ignored the massage parlours and concentrated on buying the gear we could have bought just as cheaply in U.K. without the suspicion that it was faked. The Nepalese are very open that their "North Face", "Lowe" and similar equipment are just fakes.

## **Wednesday 29/9/99 - Kathmandu to Lukla (2850m) to Phakding (2640m)**

This was a critical day, the flight from Kathmandu to Lukla. The early flights had been delayed for 2 hours due to weather. We set off for the airport more in hope than expectation. However after a short delay at the airport and a visit to one of the worst toilets in the world we boarded the Lumbini Airways Twin Otter<sup>1</sup> bound for Lukla.

The flight was exciting and spectacular with views of high mountains, fields terraced on the steep hills and a steep descent to the airfield. The co-pilot checked the navigation with a hand held GPS.

At Lukla aircraft land going uphill and take off downhill. (Contrary to initial impressions this is a safe arrangement as it quickly slows a landing aircraft and accelerates an aircraft taking off). The runway is short and slopes steeply upwards (say 10 degrees). The uphill end is a steep grass bank, the downhill end drops away sharply. The parking area is immediately to the right of the uphill end of the runway and can hold about 4 Twin Otters.

We landed safely and taxied to within 20 yards of the Yeti Lodge. The aircraft quickly reloaded and was off for Kathmandu within 5 minutes of touch down.

At the Yeti Lodge we met the key men on the trip, the Sirdar, L.P.Sherpa, his cook team and the porters. L.P. is very experienced and has climbed to the South Col on Everest (and maybe to the South Summit).

While Gordon was indulging in the first of many Mars Bars a crown on one of his teeth came loose, Richard showed his medical skills by cleaning the void and filling it with dental cement.

After lunch we set off on the trek to Phakding. The trail is downhill and easy. There were terrific views of the mountains. There were many Zopkios<sup>ii</sup> on the trail carrying loads of kit-bags, tents, kitchen tables etc. Some of the Zopkios were out of control and their horns were a significant risk. Zopkios affect the feel and smell of trekking by liberally coating the trail with dung.

There were many porters on the trail, all looking young, small and overloaded. Their loads included kit-bags (2 or 3 per porter) and kitchen equipment. A small minority of the porters were women.

At Phakding we stopped overnight at the Friendship Lodge and began the mode of life which would be followed for the next three weeks. Shortly after arrival a hot lemon drink was served. A couple of hours later we had dinner cooked by our own team. The meal consisted of soup then a main course based on eggs, potatoes or pasta, together with some form of bread. The desert was usually hot fruit and finally tea. Tim declared the trek dry and apart from a sip of the cooking rum we stayed dry until Namche on the return. After dinner we played "Hunt the Lady" [Old Maid] or chess and then to an early bed around 8 or 9 o'clock. Much time was spent reading, especially the excellent books about the disaster on Everest in 1996.

The Friendship Lodge is run by a Nepalese who acted as a porter for Nick Banks on his near-fatal expedition to Everest. He had been to U.K. and he proudly showed us his photographs, which prompted a game of "name the location".

## **Thursday 30/9/99 - Phakding (2640m) to Namche (3450m)**

Breakfast was porridge followed by fried eggs which set the pattern for the remainder of the trek. It rained heavily as we set out and made us wonder why we had not stayed in Wales.

After lunch at the Mont Kailash Lodge at Monjo we had another "event". Tim said (and of course we believed him) that Kit Spencer the head of Summit Trekking had said we "did not need to show our Entry Permits at the entrance to the Sagarmatha National Park". As everyone else knows Permits must be shown but ours were in the luggage which the porters had already taken through the park entrance. L.P. chased after them up the trail for a short distance but gave up. A negotiation with the armed guards allowed everyone through except L.P. who was held as hostage until the permits were retrieved. Tim then showed his management skills

by catching up the porters, retrieving the permits and sending Ramsung back to free L.P. whilst taking a well earned rest in a tea lodge.

A short distance up the trail we crossed over a very deep gorge on one of the excellent bridges. They are made with thick steel cables, galvanised floors and steel netting sides. Then up a steep trail into Namche. This was the first test of our fitness and as we puffed and panted up the trail it was clear that none of us was ready for even the lowest hill, the effects of lack of oxygen were becoming clearer.

In Namche we waded through mud and Yak dung to the Panorama Lodge, a palace amongst lodges. It has water closet toilets with seats, showers, satellite telephones, a computer with E-mail links and a lovely dining room with splendid views in good weather.

We shared the lodge with one of the British Army's Himalayan Dragon team; a few brave souls risked their lives and looks by suggesting that they as tax payers were funding an army jolly.

Standards dropped as "Find the Lady" [another name for Old Maid] got underway. Tim questioned the marital status of everyone's parents, Mac kept finding dung everywhere and everyone kept "sliding" [avoiding the question, or possibly continued lowering of standards].

### **Friday 1/10/99 - At leisure in Namche (3450m)**

Today was a rest/acclimatisation day; it was needed as our sleep was disturbed by a dog which barked throughout the night but wisely kept quiet in the day. The day started with a visit to a Sherpa house/museum, followed by a visit to the Everest exhibition. Both were interesting but would have been better if there had been views of the surrounding hills.

A visit to the Japanese Everest View Lodge was banned by L.P. on the grounds that a few hundred metres would tire us out. Perhaps he thought the sight of luxury would lead to an immediate abandoning of the trip. (He may have regretted his actions later)

The afternoon was shopping time. Catherine displayed extraordinary talents as a buyer: she managed to increase the price of shawls by leaving without buying and then returning to the shop. Namche has lots of climbing gear but as in Kathmandu it is mainly fake and is very cheap.

After dinner, "Hunt the lady" continued with ever increasing verbal violence.

### **Saturday 2/10/99 - Namche (3450m) to Tengboche (3860m)**

After a clear start it soon became cloudy so we could not see the spectacular mountains beyond Namche. We had lunch prepared by our cooks in a tea house which was very traditional. A large rotund man with Chinese features sat impassively along side the large fire in the kitchen; he looked cured by the smoke like a kipper.

Tengboche saw an improvement in spiritual values and a drop in every other value. Tengboche is the home of one of the most important monasteries in Nepal. We went on a tour of the monastery conducted by a German. He had worked out a plan to renew the monastery after a catastrophic fire and had been landed with implementing the plan. We risked getting pneumonia by listening to him out in the cold courtyard and then inside in stocking feet. The place is newly decorated with religious paintings and a new statue of Buddha; it is very colourful.

Tim and L.P. had decided that camping was better than lodges for hygiene reasons. We were not convinced as the rain turned our campsite alongside the Trekkers Lodge into a bog. Further doubts crept in as a visit to the toilet tent brought a level of realism not experienced since Boy Scout days.

The food was prepared by our cook Ramsung and was reasonable but a cold draughty mess tent was not the place for haute cuisine. Tim's response to any adverse comment was "It's an adventure holiday". A major characteristic of the dinner and many subsequent meals was the large amount of garlic. It ensured that we kept a reasonable distance from each other.

At Namche we changed logistics mode from all porters to a mix of porters and Yaks We gained 7 Yaks controlled by a driver and his young brother who looked to be about 8 years old.

## **Sunday 3/10/99 - Tengboche (3860m) to Dingboche (4350m)**

First we descended a slippery mud track to Deboche then to Pangboche past the monastery which held the Yeti scalp before it was stolen.

Logistics were getting serious attention as we approached our first Trekking Peak. The Mars Bar supply chain was being stretched as we bought up the entire stock from the local tea-shops.

Schedules were changed as the peaks to be climbed were reconsidered.

Mild altitude sickness problems particularly headaches were beginning to hit the team. Ian was worst affected. We were all short of breath after exertion and some lost their appetite for food.

Dingboche is a village with several lodges, the village is divided into small fields by numerous stone walls. The walls are just piles of stones, they are single thickness and easily knocked over. Their construction is inferior to that of the dry stone walls found in Northern Britain.

Our camp-site at Dingboche was alongside a lodge. There was Yak dung everywhere, the Nepalese gather it up, dry it in the sun and then use it as fuel for their stoves.

The weather was improving, the afternoon was dry with a little sun.

## **Monday 4/10/99 - Dingboche (4350m) and climb to Point 5075m on Pokalde's South Ridge**

According to the schedule this was to be an acclimatisation day. The team interpreted this as a vigorous walk up the South ridge of Pokalde to point 5075m a kilometre NNE of Dingboche and higher than the summit of Mont Blanc. Presumably this was part of the "climb high, sleep low" approach to acclimatisation.

Tim and Dave asserted their masculinity by doing one-armed press-ups at 5075m.

The weather teased us with brief glimpses of portions of fabulous mountains only to cover them almost immediately with cloud.

## **Tuesday 5/10/99 - Dingboche (4350m) to Pokalde Base Camp (5000m)**

Disaster day! Ian and Catherine had mild altitude sickness and had to go to a lower altitude. They went to Deboche at 3770m accompanied by Kusang. (Little did we know that they were going to the Ama Dablam Garden, one of the best lodges on the trail with great food. If we had known we might have joined them.)

Their absence led to an immediate drop in standards at the table, on the trail and in shopping.

The remainder of the team spent 6 hours walking up to Pokalde Base Camp to see if it was suitable and then, like the Duke of York's men, we walked back down again. On the hill we met a group of British soldiers, most in running shorts, who were doing a reconnaissance of the peak.

There were good views of the mountains in the early morning but then it clouded over with occasional blue patches.

On return to Dingboche we found a group of American teenagers camped next to us. That night the giggling of the girls and the enthusiastic tones of the boys on the pull [chasing girls] led to thoughts of murder by all the team, only the method was in doubt. Ice axes were favourite but luckily they were packed away out of reach. The youngsters apologised next day and, true to form, sent the prettiest girl to do the talking.

## **Wednesday 6/10/99 - Dingboche(4350m) to Pokalde Base Camp (5000m)**

We moved up to Pokalde Base Camp to the bumpiest site ever seen. By some ancient Nepalese art 5 smooth tent sites were found. Two sub-groups were nominated based on Tim's perception of their climbing strengths. Tim said he considered all the options including placing a rope expert in each sub-group. (Next day all this organisation was totally ignored as first come, first served took over.)

The team met the famous Simon Yates (he who, in dire straits, cut the rope connecting himself to Joe Simpson as recorded in *Touching the Void*)<sup>iii</sup>. He was leading an exhausted couple down from Pokalde and was dressed in the brightest uncoordinated colours. It was just as well that Catherine was not there.

Tim held a practice session on fixed rope techniques which must have increased his anxiety to intolerable levels as we stumbled up and down the rocks.

Kit inspections led to numerous changes, particularly Mac who needed a new set of crampon straps and Gordon who had to reset his crampons and jumar. Without the checks the chaos next day would have been total.

Despite a warning of bad weather on Kathmandu radio and snow falling Tim decided to get everyone out of bed at 4:15am to face the elements and Pokalde.

## **Thursday 7/10/99 - Climb Pokalde (5794m, 19,009ft)**

Today saw a change in the character of the trip as we moved from trekking to climbing. The 5:30 start meant a chaotic rush to find gear. The snow had stopped but there was 2 to 3 inches and the long walk to the site of the high camp was demanding.

The level of effort increased as the gradient changed and soon everyone except L.P. was puffing and panting and taking long breaks to recover. The hot sun made progress arduous and increased the sweaty smell which now pervaded the team.

Just before the summit the route changes from snow and boulders to rock. The climbing was easy but the quality of the rock is poor and this combined with the exposure led to the setting up of fixed ropes.

An Australian party led by Bridget Muir (the first woman to climb the highest peaks on all seven continents) was on the summit rocks before us. They had set up thin fixed ropes which looked like clothes lines from Tesco's [a British store, similar in quality to K-Mart].

We negotiated to use their ropes and confusion ensued as Brits going up tried to pass Australians coming down whilst fixed to the same rope. All this orchestrated by Tim who was worried by the prospect of bad weather.

Richard impressed us all by sprinting (yes literally sprinting) the last 10 metres up the snow.

On the way back to the base camp we were met a mile from the camp by Pickas with his battered aluminium kettle full of hot lemon juice. The service provided by the cook team never ceased to amaze and impress.

The summit was reached by Dave, Gordon, Richard, Mac, Rupert and Tim. Philip was hit by a stomach bug and he had to give the mountain best on this occasion [give up the climb, or let the mountain win]. The difficulty of the climb can be judged by the fact that most of us did not use crampons on the ascent and we were not on a rope until the final 150 foot rock section. It was all about altitude and stamina, not climbing technique.

## **Friday 8/10/99 - Pokalde Base Camp (5000m) to Chukhung (4750m)**

The morning was superb, we went into a spasm of photography as the mountains around were finally revealed in all their unsurpassable beauty and magnificence. The team moved on to Chukhung.

Mac and Gordon went down to Dingboche to make contact with Ian and Catherine. Mac and Gordon got lost on the main drag into Dingboche and knocked down some rather fragile walls before they found their way back to the lodge. Ian and Catherine looking happy and fit arrived around 15:00.

The sky that night was fantastic with the stars and planets extremely bright in the clear sky with the mountains shown as a dark irregular rim.

## **Saturday 9/10/99 - Chukhung Ri (5540m)**

Today was scheduled as an easy day. However the message was not passed on fully. Dave, Gordon, Mac and Richard puffed their way up Chukhung Ri, a height which three of them had only topped before on Pokalde.

It was reported that Dave, Mac and Richard performed a "moony" on the summit much to the disgust of an American couple who were taking the ascent seriously.

On the way down Gordon met a couple slowly making their way up. He thought they were in their mid seventies but later found that it was Bridget and a 61 year old client. Perhaps he should get some new glasses though Bridget does wear some extreme clothes on the hills.

Ian and Catherine arrived at the Chukhung camp site and Catherine immediately regretted it as Mac took off his socks, liberating a smell which over powered even the Yak dung spread liberally around the Jagged Globe tents.

Ian showed his new fitness by dashing up the hill towards Chukhung Ri to photograph the view only to miss it as the mist rolled up the valley. At last the weather was following the normal post monsoon pattern.

## **Sunday 10/10/99 - Chukhung (4750) to Island Peak Base Camp (5100m)**

An easy day with glorious weather. The walk up to the Base Camp was very pleasant; over the moraine and across the sandy basin to Pareshaya Gyab; only Bridget spoiled our euphoria as she emphasised her greater fitness by shooting passed us dressed as a Victorian bee-keeper.

There were many groups at the base camp including Bridget's Australians and a male team and a female team from the British Army.

Lunch was followed by a discussion on class. Tim insulted Gordon by accusing him of being middle-class.

Chomba is a future Sirdar; he is intelligent, always interested in new things, cheerful, strong, hardworking and willing. As part of his early training Tim gave him lessons in abseiling using the classical method and using a harness and descender.

## **Monday 11/10/99 - Island Peak High Camp (5500m )**

After a cold night we walked up to Island Peak High Camp. Gordon lost his credibility by announcing that it had been  $-31^{\circ}\text{C}$  overnight. It took him an hour to realise he had missed the decimal point and it was only  $-3.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

It was a nice walk up in the sun and a leisurely afternoon in the camp amidst the rocks. The Sherpas had worked hard to level off enough tent sites for all of us.

The event of the day was Mac's birthday party with a very nice cake baked by Ramsung. Mac put a terrific amount of effort into the trip and particularly in view of subsequent events it was great that his birthday should be celebrated in style. There was no booze, no jelly [Jell-O], no fancy hats but the location was incomparable.

For the first time we had high camp rations, pork casseroles and chilli con carne. They made a welcome change after so many dishes based on eggs.

To reduce the load carried some of us slept three in a tent which if anything proved better as it kept the tent warmer.

The weather was fine all day, more like the pattern we expected from the post monsoon season.

## **Tuesday 12/10/99 - The climb of Island Peak (6189m/20,305ft)**

This was the definitive day. Early bed-tea at 3:00 and quickly onto the rocks to start the climb of Island Peak at 4:20. After an hour or so walking up steep and loose rock, Richard announced he had a migraine and the only cure was a helicopter to Kathmandu. Tim improvised with a bivvi bag and the services of a Sherpa but after 10 minutes of that Richard declared he would rather continue the climb and after taking some magic pills re-started climbing upwards.

Meanwhile the red team led by L.P. had shot up the hill to the start of the glacier. The snow was too hard to kick steps and after a few metres Gordon bottled out [chickened out] and refused to go further without fitting crampons or being attached to a rope even though the exposure was only moderate. After crossing the glacier in a trench made by previous climbers the red team reached the foot of the 100 metre headwall leading to the col. This was the key section and L.P. and Kusang quickly fixed a rope up it.

This was the time to put into practice our new jumaring skills. With a lot of effort Rupert, Dave and Gordon climbed to the Col taking about 10 to 15 minutes each. (Using arm muscles rather than legs muscles as encouraged by jumaring is a very inefficient way to climb.)

At the Col there was another delay as L.P. and Kusang fixed ropes all the way to the summit. The delay was useful because it allowed recovery from the exertion of the headwall. The summit ridge was neither steep nor difficult and the final ascent was reasonably quick. We arrived at the summit around 11:00.

L.P. and Kusang supported us as we unclipped from the fixed rope and staggered the last few steps to the summit. Then followed the usual handshakes and photographs. Gordon sought to change the image of rambling [walking or easy hiking, as opposed to scrambling or climbing] by flying an improvised Maidstone Ramblers flag above 20,000 ft.

After only a few minutes L.P. asked us to go down as he was worried by the clouds to the north which were grey and menacing. He also said that no-one else should come up the fixed ropes.

However it was easier said than enforced; as we descended the leading climbers from Bridget's group were already making their way up the final ridge. After a lot of "messaging about" as we passed each other we returned to the Col to a scene of exhaustion.

Here the remainder of the Jagged Globe group were just reaching the col. They had taken over an hour to climb the headwall and they were exhausted.

Philip just flopped onto the Col held by a tight rope. He was absolutely finished having given his all trying to realise a long held ambition to climb Island Peak.

Richard also arrived at the Col and started to wander around before being grabbed by Bridget and fastened to the anchors. Mac also reached the Col with some strength left.

Tim responded to Mac and Richard's pleas to be allowed a crack at the summit but they had little time to recover and the weather was closing in. After a few metres it became obvious that the only safe course was to curtail the climb.

The next phase was the descent. The headwall was descended by a 100 metre abseil. At the bottom were Ian and an Australian in a bivvi bag in a shallow snow well. Ian had been there for over two hours having run out of strength at the foot of the headwall probably due to the interruption in his acclimatisation. Even though some of his strength returned the progress of the team up the headwall had been too slow to allow him to attempt it.

At the foot of the headwall Bridget formed a nine- person rope consisting of Brits and Australians to re-cross the glacier. It was very slow, apparently the climber at the front of the rope, an Australian, had never worn crampons nor been on a glacier before that day.

Ultimately we reached the rocks, released ourselves from the rope and made our way back to the High Camp. It had been a good day for some, frustrating for others but all had given it their best shot. Clearly stamina rather than technique is the major requirement for Island Peak.

A bitter blow struck the group at dinner. Mac and Catherine announced that they were cutting short their trek and returning to U.K. They had suffered from headaches throughout and wanted time to recover prior to returning to work. The group was poorer without them. They provided a constant flow of fresh ideas and good will.

### **Wednesday 13/10/99 - Island Peak Base Camp (5100m) to Pheriche (4280m)**

There was a 2 inch covering of snow in the early morning. Team photographs were taken before breaking camp and heading for Chukhung and then down to Dingboche. Tim followed later escorting Chris, a British Army medic from the Himalayan Dragon Expedition. Tim suspected (correctly as it transpired) that Chris had High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE).

There was a group of American climbers in the lodge and Tim almost restarted the War of Independence with a few aggressive remarks about American climbing.

Mac and Catherine left for "head ache free" country with Mac setting a stiff schedule to get to Lukla in 2 days.

As we crossed the ridge to Pheriche, Tim interviewed us individually to determine our remaining personnel objectives.

The doctors at the Himalayan Rescue Association Medical Post at Pheriche diagnosed Chris as having HAPE.

### **Thursday 14/10/99 - Pheriche (4280m)**

An easy rest day at Pheriche. We lounged about until mid-day, as rock climbers do. Then Tim ran a session on crevasse rescue in which we devised 3:1 and 6:1 pulley systems to drag each other across the grass. Maybe it was the view of Lobuche East with some horrible snow features that prompted the practice. The view certainly worried Gordon who is used to nice well trodden tracks across glaciers and up ridges. Lobuche East did not look like that at all, it looked out of condition, steep, difficult and dangerous.

Later we went to the daily lecture given at the Himalayan Rescue Association Medical Post. It was very informative and practical. There is no need for anyone to be ignorant of the effects of altitude once they have reached Pheriche.

## **Friday 15/10/99 - Pheriche (4280m) to below Lobuche East Base Camp(4800m)**

We were now on the main route to Everest Base Camp, Gorak Shep and Kala Pattar. The trail was busy, with Yak traffic jams at the key junctions.

Our plan was to move up to Lobuche East Base camp. Apparently there are two base camps and Tim wanted to go to one whilst L.P. thought we were going to the other. The result was a frantic half-hour; the client teams were spread out across the foothills of Lobuche East whilst the Yak and Cook Teams had already set up camp on the other side of the hill. After a high level meeting on a moor strangely reminiscent of Scotland, Tim was decisive as ever, he immediately decided that he was in the right place and ordered L.P. to resite the camp. L.P. rushed off to sort out his forces (one can only imagine their comments) and there followed an anxious hour or so as the weather deteriorated. Just as it started to snow the cook team appeared coming round the hill followed closely by the Yaks coming straight over the hill and down the steep slope to effect a rescue worthy of the American cavalry.

Philip suffered another blow; whilst lifting his kit-bag out of the tent he strained his back and found it difficult to move around the tent or over difficult terrain, no condition for climbing a mountain like Lobuche East.

Over dinner plans were made to go to a higher camp next day (alongside Hidden Lake).

## **Saturday 16/10/99 - Lobuche Base Camp (4800m) to Hidden Lake to Above Lobuche Village.(4940m)**

Intermittent snow over night and low cloud made any attempt at climbing Lobuche East unrealistic.

A short (1 hour) trip was made up to the Hidden Lake where a clearer picture of the mountain emerged. We saw two soldiers from the British Army coming down the lower snow slopes. We later met them in Kathmandu and they described having a torrid time in difficult snow conditions. They had reached the false summit but wisely they had not attempted to cross the notch to the true summit. It was a courageous climb after a long period of preparation.

The route was clearly difficult in the prevailing conditions and there was no alternative but to abandon the Jagged Globe attempt on Lobuche East. (The subsequent weather confirmed the wisdom of the decision but in the comfort and safety of the armchair at home one regrets the loss of the mountaineering experience)

Richard, unaware that the soldiers had reached the peak, suggested that they could make amends by climbing Pokalde in an afternoon from Pheriche. He had already forgotten the state of the Jagged Globe team on the last 200 metres of Pokalde.

The team agreed to a fall back plan, an ascent of Kala Pattar. After lunch we moved round to Lobuche to carry it out. Rupert declined to climb Kala Pattar on the somewhat dubious grounds that he wanted to leave this pearl for a subsequent visit.

The snow started to fall and the team was forced a mile up the trail by the squalor of the Lobuche camp sites.

## **Sunday 17/10/99 - Lobuche (4940m) to Kala Pattar (5600m) to Pheriche (4280m)**

The rump of the team, Richard, Ian, Dave and Gordon set out for Kala Pattar full of bravado. We, as climbers, expected to flash past mere trekkers and stroll up Kala Pattar. The first hour meandering through the massive moraines brought us down to earth. By the time we reached Gorak Shep we had adjusted our sights to more realistic levels.

Kala Pattar took an hour plus to climb and we arrived at the top around 10:00. Most of the other walkers were middle aged, many Americans. Finally we reached the summit of Kala Pattar, the zenith of all our efforts. It was covered in around 30 to 40 trekkers,. They included a party of London based Welshmen who had heard rumours of their Rugby Union World Cup defeat by Western Samoa and were trying to hide away to escape the shame.

The high clouds gradually lifted to show large sections of the Western face of Everest and the South Col but tantalisingly the summit never came out of the cloud. The view of Nuptse was outstanding. Pumari looked great, hardly "just a vantage point from which to view Everest".

After an hour or so lazing in the sun the great retreat back to civilisation began. First back to Gorak Shep for tea and chips [French fries] then to our camp above Lobuche for another mystery lunch and down to Pheriche.

One of the parties we passed on the track to Lobuche was a group of disabled French people who had been taken up the track for a view of Everest in mono wheel chairs. Four able-bodied people support each "chair"; the strength required was great as they manoeuvred over rocky sections. The exertion of these people made our efforts seem puny.

On the way down we passed a large group of stone memorials to climbers who had lost their lives on Everest. Those commemorated included Scott Fischer but most of them were Sherpas, another reminder of the seriousness of climbing in this region.

Chris the Army medic was still at Pheriche, still hoping to make contact with the British Army. He may still be at Pheriche next year living on expenses in the lodge, a later day Robinson Crusoe.

Rupert left the team in the morning to get to Lukla early to ensure that he caught his plane to Hong Kong or so he said. Perhaps the prospect of all those American matrons on Kala Pattar had finally broken his nerve.

### **Monday 18/10/99 - Pheriche (4280m) to Deboche (3770m)**

We left the Lobuche, Dingboche, Pheriche triangle that had caused so many problems: we were down to 5 clients. The descent along the track was more hazardous than the mountains due to the large number of Yaks trains, most going in the opposite direction now that the peak time for trekking had arrived.

The weather turned bad as it began to rain heavily. We had an early lunch at the Ama Dablam Garden Lodge, the "Shangri La" that Ian and Catherine had discovered a week earlier.

The food revived taste buds that had been suppressed since the Summit Hotel. The food was so good that the doctor from the Himalayan Rescue Association Medical Post at Pheriche had walked some 10 km just for lunch.

Part of the team, including of course Dave, had another lunch cooked by Ramsung, then they went back to the Garden and had another meal before returning for dinner cooked by Ramsung, their fifth meal of the day.

The team was camping alongside the Everest and Rhododendron Lodge which has a conservatory which we used as a dining room. It was just as well as it continued to rain for the rest of the day and the night.

The trip seemed to be ebbing away in a series of short journeys and rain/snow.

### **Tuesday 19/10/99 - Deboche (3770m) to Namche (3450)**

Up early for a possible view of Everest. It was not to be, it continued to rain. The camp site was flooded, two holes some 15 inches deep just above our tents were full of water. A group of French trekkers who camped just above us on flatter ground were awash in water and mud.

We scrambled up the mud slide to Tengboche which by repute has one of the best views in the world. As on the trek up we saw no mountains at all, just a sodden, cold, miserable scene.

Lunch was taken early in a lodge before a brief dry spell in which Tim and Philip, now fully recovered, relived their youth by racing (including running) down the track. They arrived at the Panorama Lodge at Namche well ahead of the rest of us and broke their three week long abstinence with beer.

Guilt complexes started to work overtime as members tried to telephone their wives and girl friends, only to get responses from answering machines. Was there anyone there when they got home?

Unfortunately the great joys of WCs with proper seats and showers had to be delayed for two more days. There was no room at the Panorama and we were put up in the Camp Debase Lodge which has great arm chairs in the lounge but only holes in the floor in the toilet block.

Dave and Ian made a beeline for the bakery and almost ate them out of stock. At the same time they managed to chat up a couple of prosperous girls from Switzerland. The girl with a flat in Zermatt may cause our heroes to change next year's objective from the Ama Dablam to the Matterhorn.

### **Wednesday 20/10/99 - Namche (3450m) to Phakding (2640m)**

Richard set off early for Lukla to try to get an early flight to Kathmandu on Thursday and regain some margin on his flight to Hong Kong. We were now down to 4 clients, it was like an Agatha Christy story wondering who would disappear next.

Sangpu and Chomba also left us at Namche as it is too warm below Namche for Yaks to operate. It was great to see the pleasure on Chomba's face as he received his tip and a gift from Tim. In general the Sherpas seem very happy, the children at play are a delight to watch.

Some of the team went down to the bazaar to buy presents, some for more cakes at the bakery and to chat up the girls. The rain finally stopped around 10:00 am. It had rained almost non-stop for 48 hours.

We set off for Phakding after lunch. We walked down against a strong tide of trekkers coming in the opposite direction. As they struggled up the hill into Namche it was impossible not to wonder how they were going to cope with the higher altitudes still to come. It was only a couple of weeks since we had been in just the same state.

The smartest sartorially were the Japanese who followed each other slowly in tight formation.

Ian showed early signs of senile dementia as he left his waterproof jacket behind at the lodge.

Phakding was heaving with trekkers and we ended up at the Friendship Lodge despite Ramsung dashing down the trail trying to find a camp site. Most of us were only too happy not to be camping in the still wet tents.

The owner of the lodge came back from Lukla happy on Chang and tried, unsuccessfully, to show us a Nepalese dance. As would happen all over the world his embarrassed family dragged him away.

### **Thursday 21/10/99 - Phakding (2640m) to Lukla (2850m)**

We had an easy walk to Lukla in bright sunshine with great views of the peaks around. At Lukla we stationed ourselves in the Yeti Lodge to watch the world go by. In fact it came to us. First an OTT leader, Damian Benegas from California, and his Sirdar arrived by rescue helicopter. They were suffering from a bad case of snow blindness having been caught out in a snow storm on Baruntse. They had had to remove their goggles to see the trail they were breaking to rescue their clients.

Next came Nev. Taylor, a Jagged Globe leader, who had walked for 2 days on snow shoes to get help for his team who were snow bound. It was reported that he had been within 20 metres of an avalanche which had killed two people.

Then came another Jagged Globe leader, Andy Chapman, with his team who had walked out of the Zatre region. They brought with them, looked after and paid the accommodation costs for a Sherpani porter who they had found totally exhausted by the side of the trail. The parallel with the Good Samaritan was striking.

The pilot of a rescue helicopter also came into the lodge to sort out the plan for the next morning's rescue flights.

Ian paid one of the porters to go back to Namche to bring back his jacket. The porter had already carried his normal load from Phakding to Lukla but he made the journey from Lukla to Namche and back before 20:00 and then took part in the dancing.

Dinner that evening was the best that Ramsung had prepared all trip. Some delicious fried chicken washed down with Chang and Rakshi. After the meal the porters started to sing and then to dance in a style which was a mixture of eastern movements and western disco. The porters led the singing with enthusiasm but Pickas was the star dancer. Gordon responded by singing about the dangers of courting on Ilkley moor without adequate head gear [Rob couldn't quite translate this expression, but it has to do with a well known children's song].

Dave had a mental/visual block and invited a male Sherpa to dance. L.P. was persuaded, in song, to buy a bottle of whisky, which reduced inhibitions even further. A memorable day to end our trek.

### **Friday 22/10/99 - Lukla (2850m) to Kathmandu**

We had an early morning call to catch our flight. For the first time Pickas was slightly late, no doubt due to a hangover. We made our way through the chaos which is Lukla Check In and out into the cold to await the aircraft. After the exciting take off the flight was spectacular with views of the mighty Himalayan Range.

Back at the Summit Hotel we started the recovery process with long baths, beard removal, big meals and trips to Thamel. Ian and Dave were soon in the grove chatting up the teacher and clinical psychologist they had met at Phakding and in Lukla. Unfortunately they were upstaged by the heroes of Lobuche East, the two soldiers we had seen descending from the peak a week earlier. The Rolwaling team had arrived at the hotel a day earlier and were reliving their trial by rain and leeches.

The report from Lukla was that the rescue flights were successful and the 40 people who were stranded were safe. There were rumours that up to 6 people died in the snow. It illustrated how quickly adventure can turn into tragedy.

## **Saturday 23/10/99 - Kathmandu**

The day to go home arrived. An Email from Catherine brought news that she and Mac are engaged. It tests the imagination to think how long it will take to buy the ring, beware the jewellers of Hatten Garden [a high class jewellery store, like Tiffany's].

The team made a final dash into Thamel to collect presents and make a final round of tourist sites. Dave almost turned vegetarian after watching a bull have its head cut off in a gory scene. Ian had a macabre experience watching a cremation.

Tim continued to get his satisfaction by beating Philip at chess.

We were reduced to water as our supply of Rupees finally ran out. The staff at the Summit watched, with eagle eyes, lest we ordered cake and left without paying.

Late afternoon Kit Spencer came over to organise us into the bus to the airport. We were given white scarves to wish us well. For the final time we travelled through the streets of Kathmandu with their distinctive smells.

We boarded an A340 and instantly we were in an affluent world with totally different values to those which had ruled our lives for a month. The contrast between the poverty on the trek and the affluence in the aircraft was obscene.

We landed at Abu Dhabi to even more affluence. After chaos at the Transfer Desk we got a flight to London that night. The final elements in the budget were spent in the duty free.

## **Sunday 24/10/99 - Abu Dhabi to London**

The Abu Dhabi Airport Departure Lounge is unusual, it is like the inside of a doughnut. The roof, central core and floor are all covered in small irregular tiles; truly a striking piece of architecture.

The weary team made their way onto a Gulf Air A330 flying to Bahrain for a brief stop and then onto London.

Ian and Gordon worked the system and got 2 seats each though Gordon had to fend off a woman intruder in the night by shouting at her. He will have to be careful not to frighten the grandchildren.

Finally an English welcome; flight through cloud then rain as we arrived just as a depression hit the south east of England. Then handshakes and promises to keep in touch prior to a change of mode as we each reverted back to our normal lives.

## **Post Script**

It had been a great experience, we had seen great mountains, we had got on well together, we had been well led and supported by Tim, L.P. and his team, and we are alive to tell the story.

## **Post Post Script**

Tim has been rewarded for his success in keeping us all alive by being made one of the two guides leading Jagged Globe's Everest climb in 2000. It is rumoured that Brian Blessed may be on that trip making his forth attempt to climb Everest. If so Tim may be a star of TV in the summer of 2000.

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<sup>i</sup> Twin Otter DHC-6

Built by De Havilland Canada (now Boeing), First pre-production flight May 1965

Two crew, Two Pratt & Whitney Turbo Props of 579 e.s.h.p., Cruise 155 mph, Range 817 miles with 2420-lb. Payload. Take off to 50 ft - 1170 ft, Landing from 50 ft - 1050 ft

<sup>ii</sup> A Zopkios is a cross between a Yak and a cow

<sup>iii</sup> Simon Yates's book is Against the Wall 176pp \$29.95

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ALPINE ECHO



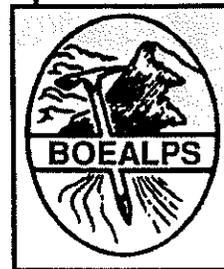
***February ECHO staff***

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributor: Tim Bird (via Rob James)

*Hey! I need more contributors! If you have any submissions - anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do - email them to me at matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices will work, give me a call at (425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

April 2000



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Photo: Sunrise on Columbia Crest, by Mike Jacobsen

From Beth Sundquist 39-PU

## April General Meeting

Renaissance man Stimson Bullitt has single-handedly redefined the standards for climbing. He began climbing at age 50, summited Denali at 62, and led the 5.9 pitch on Outer Space at a young 73. Did we mention that last year he climbed the North Ridge of Mt. Stuart at 79? Come out for what promises to be an inspirational story!

**Thursday, April 6th**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting at 7:30 pm**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **Y2K Class Update...**

For the first time in over a decade, we aren't holding an ICC this year. We didn't have enough students sign up to make it worthwhile, so a decision was made to cancel the class. Some of the instructors are planning on organizing some "ICC instructor only" outings to review teaching methods for next year's class and to explore some new climbs to add to the ICC experience climbs menu. I'm hoping that some of the folks who usually volunteer their time to teach the ICC will consider organizing a climb or two instead this season, and fill the activities section with tempting outings!

The BCC has (at last count) 51 students signed up, and has completed their first outing to St. Edwards Park already. Due to the SPEEA strike, Shawn has been holding the classroom sessions in the band room at Cleveland High School, but the class will now move back to its traditional home in the Customer Service Center. While the BCC is still planning on breaking up into four teams, the small class size has meant slightly shorter hours for the instructors to put in for the first two outings. Favorite line overheard at the rappel station at St. Edwards, while a student was learning the Dulfersitz: "I just LOVE slippery pants!" - I'll keep you informed where the class goes from there!

## **Wedding Bells...**

Congratulations to Rich Privett and Elissa Stern who tied the knot (isn't that how climbers get married?) on March 19<sup>th</sup>, and to Rich Baldwin and Heather Naughton, who did the same on March 3<sup>rd</sup> - I hope your marriages are long and happy!

## **Boealps Email Distribution List...**

During the SPEEA strike, it became evident that only having your Boeing email address on file with Boealps can make communication difficult at times. If you have another email address available, and would like to have that listed in our database instead of your Boeing address, please drop a note to boealps\_dlist@hotmail.com. Also, if you'd like to send a message out to the Boealps members, and don't want to wait until the next Echo, send that message along to the above address, and we'll see that it gets sent out.

## **Earth Day Activities...**

Kirk Thomson, Director of SSG Energy and Environmental Affairs, is hosting an Earth Day Event on April 15, 2000. The event will be a tree planting on Cougar Mountain which is part of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Project. All tools and plant materials will be provided. Kirk is looking for approximately 100 volunteers. For additional details, specific times, and directions, please contact Kirk Thomson at 425-865-6709 or kirk.thomson@pss.boeing.com

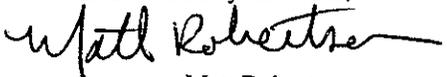
## **Activity Release Form...**

You may have noticed that the inside of last month's back cover was the standard release form you all sign when you join Boealps. I'll be running that each month in the future, and all trip leaders need to make sure they have a signed copy of this form for all NON-Boealps members that participate on any club outing. This is for insurance and liability reasons, and by having it as part of each month's Echo, it shouldn't be too much of a pain.

## **Boealps Web Site...**

Our web site is located at <http://www.boealps.org> - Rob James has been updating most sections of the site - if it has been a while since you checked it out, wander on over next time you're online. Rob's fixed up the search engine for finding trip reports in past Echos, and with the updated membership list going online this month, the member's search engine should be more helpful as well (verify that your information is correct while you're there). Rob's "Name that Route" game on the front page is a kick, too - if you're a rock climber, give it a go and see how many you can get without resorting to the clues! A "Name that Peak" version of the quiz will be forthcoming for those of you who spend more time in the snow than on the rock... If you have any comments or suggestions, send them to Rob at [admin@boealps.org](mailto:admin@boealps.org). The password (needed for activities and the member's roster) is still: SLESSE

From the desk of your editor,



Matt Robertson

**May Echo deadline is April 20<sup>th</sup>**

## April, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> BCC at Stevens Pass
<b>2</b> Daylight Savings begins BCC at Stevens Pass	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> New Moon	<b>5</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>6</b> General Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> BCC at Snoqualmie Pass
<b>9</b> BCC at Snoqualmie Pass	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> BCC at Devil's Peak area; Vantage outing
<b>16</b> Palm Sunday BCC at Devil's Peak area; Vantage outing; Little Si	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Full Moon	<b>19</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>20</b> Echo deadline	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Mike and Doug's outing; Eric Bennett's outing
<b>23</b> Easter Sunday Eric Bennett's outing	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> BCC at Devil's peak area
<b>30</b> BCC at Devil's peak area						

## May, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> May Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> New Moon General Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> BCC at Leavenworth
<b>7</b> BCC at Leavenworth	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> BCC in the Tatoosh
<b>14</b> Mother's Day BCC in the Tatoosh	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>18</b> Full Moon Echo deadline	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> BCC on the Nisqually Glacier; Three Fingers climb
<b>21</b> BCC on the Nisqually Glacier; Three Fingers climb; Mike and Doug's outing	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Eric Bennett's outing
<b>28</b> Eric Bennett's outing	<b>29</b> Memorial Day	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Basic Class Lecture			

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs • other

## Vantage/Frenchman's Coulee

April 15 -16

Rock climbing at Vantage/Frenchman's Coulee – 5<sup>th</sup> class climbing on desert basalt columns. I will be around Vantage for the "Desert 100", some kind of off-road/dual-sport motorcycle event. I plan on spending some of the time doing biking, but I would like to also get some climbing in. Join me for either or both!

**Party Limit** None  
**Route** Whichever one you want – check the "Frenchman's Coulee" guidebook  
**Equipment** Rock climbing gear – rack of 'draws or trad rack, depending on what you want to climb  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016(h) or erbennett@hotmail.com

## April BoBaby Outing

April 16

Calling all parents and kids – springtime in Washington means it's time for Bryden's annual trek up Little Si and we'd love to have you join us. This will be the fourth time he's going for the summit after three previous successful efforts. (Last year, he walked half the distance on his own – this year, who knows?!) We'll be leaving on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am from the parking lot (the parking lot does fill up, so you might want to get there early). Plan on a snack and/or lunch at the summit and some good mud for the kids to slosh through ("We're goin' on a bear hunt...") To RSVP or for more information, contact Maren Nelson at mnelson@physio-control.com or (425)822-0455.

**Party Limit** A dozen-ish  
**Equipment** Snacks/lunch, changes of clothes, good boots for mud  
**Experience** Child carrying 101, child coaxing 201  
**Contact** Maren Nelson, 425-867-4396(w), 425-822-0455(h) mnelson@physio-control.com

## Mike & Doug's Spring Outing Series

April 22 and May 21

We'll plan on moderately technical climbs requiring roped travel. There will be a backup climb if conditions do not allow technical climbing.

**Mountain/Area** Condition Dependent  
**Elevation** Higher than home  
**Route** Condition Dependant  
**Class** 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>, possibly low 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Grade** I-II  
**Approximate Times** 5 am - 7 pm  
**Skills** Basic class graduation required  
**Number of People** 6  
**Contacts** Mike Bingle, (206)662-4929(w), (206)935-3992(h), michael.g.bingle@boeing.com

## April weekend outing

April 22-23

Location and activity will be dependent on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Climbing at Smith Rock; Beach hike at Lake Ozette

**Party Limit** 12  
**Experience** Depends on destination and activity  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbennett@hotmail.com

## Three Fingers Lookout

May 20-21

Camp overnight at Goat Flats, then climb to the south peak. Ascend the three ladders to the lookout.

- Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Trail (probably under snow), grade I, class 2.  
**Elevation** 6854'  
**Equipment** Silverton Green Trails map; standard snow travel and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Don Fraser, 425-294-5424, donald.m.fraser@boeing.com, M/S 07-52

## Memorial Day outing

May 27-29

We'll probably extend this outing by a day or two, depending on people's schedules. Location and activity will depend on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Crag climbing at Smith Rock; Climbing Mt. Jefferson.

- Party Limit** 12  
**Experience** Basic class graduate  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbenett@hotmail.com

## On the Road: bicycling the North Cascades Highway

June 17

Training for the STP, just graduated from the Basic Class, or simply want to measure your mettle? Come join the fun and bike the 55 miles and 5000' total elevation gain (estimates) in one day, surrounded by the spectacular peaks of the North Cascades.

The plan is for one group to camp at Winthrop on Friday night, the other at Newhalem (or do an early Saturday morning drive, about 2.5 hours), departing each locale at 7am. The groups will swap car keys en route. The ride could take anywhere from four to eight hours, depending on your conditioning. This is just before the summer solstice, so there will be plenty of daylight if you are a slacker. If mechanical problems occur, one of the vehicles heading back can come rescue you and bring you a cold beer.

Note: There are NO facilities along this entire stretch (Diablo Dam/Ross Lake are possible but limited), so be prepared. Make sure your bike is in good condition, bring your 10 essentials (including plenty of food and water), and tools to fix a flat.

- Party Limit** None  
**Route** North Cascades Highway  
**Equipment** Bicycle in good working condition, no training wheels allowed  
**Experience** This shouldn't be your first 20+ mile day  
**Contact** Kathy Hasegawa (206)527-5281(home)  
Len Kannapell (206)522-7022 (home) or kannapell@yahoo.com

## Fourth of July outing

July 1-4

We'll probably extend this outing by a day or two, depending on people's schedules. Location and activity will depend on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Alpine climbing in the Bugaboos; crag climbing in Skaha.

- Party Limit** 12  
**Experience** Basic class graduate  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbenett@hotmail.com

**Submit activities to**  
Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

Two pages of activities – excellent! Let's see if we can keep the ball rolling – how about picking just one climb, and one weekend between now and September and submitting it for the next Echo. If you'd like to do a climb, but need someone with more technical experience along, ask for that, and we'll see if we can hook up trip coordinators with experienced folks! Some ideas: Mount Persis; South face of the Tooth; Mount Daniel-Mount Hinman traverse; Sahale Peak via Sahale Arm; south side of Glacier Peak...

# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time!*

**Submit activities to**

Steve Fox  
425-353-9508  
sfox@eskimo.com

## Programs

By Victor Yagi and Al Baal

### April General Meeting Program:

#### Main Show:

Stimson Bullitt has taken away all your excuses – if this guy can do it, anyone can. His climbing resume is quite impressive, but when you consider he started climbing at 50, it's difficult to believe. Great story on his achievements in the Mountain Zone web: <http://www.mountainzone.com/climbing/99/misc/bullitt/>

### Upcoming Events:

Two more shows have been planned, but not scheduled: "Scenes from Antarctica", and "Experiences of Doctors in the Developing World". Watch this space for more details, and send in your suggestions for programs or volunteer to do a mini-show by contacting Victor or Al.

Victor: 425-477-4812 or [yagwan@yahoo.com](mailto:yagwan@yahoo.com)

Al: 425-477-4812 or [allen.c.baal@boeing.com](mailto:allen.c.baal@boeing.com)

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## March Board Meeting Minutes

The March Board Meeting was attended by Bill Harrison, Noreen Borg, Len Kannapell, Ed Alejandro, Ilan Angwin, Beth Sundquist, Chris Rudesill, Silas Wild, and Troy Colyer.

The 2000 Basic Climbing Class has 53 Students. Initial class sessions were held at Cleveland High School.

Troy Colyer joined us to discuss topics in his column. Troy plans to provide columns discussing changes to Trail Access Fees and NOVA funding. His reports will be placed in the ECHO and on the BoeAlps web sites.

Len is working on providing a series of seminars and experience outings to bridge the gap between graduation from the basic class and entry into the intermediate class.

The Mountaineers lodge is reserved for the annual banquet this year.

Silas brought requests to purchase two new avalanche beacons and an Avi-Lung. Although the board agrees with purchasing the beacons, the purchase was deferred for a month until the situation with the 2000 budget is settled. There was no consensus on whether the Avi-Lung should be purchased and that discussion was also deferred.

Glenn Tomchick, Secretary

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## Climbing Instructor Wanted

I am the Program Director for a program called "Desert School," which takes place during May in Eastern Washington. We give high school freshmen the chance to explore the Sage Brush Steppe at Sun Lakes State Park in different ways including kayaking and rock climbing. I am searching for a person who would like to volunteer their knowledge and share their time teaching a short rock climbing seminar to young adults. The founder and previous organizer of the rock climbing sessions passed away earlier this month, and we are searching for someone to replace him for this year. This program is run through a Boy Scouts Venturing Crew, Crew 84, and is run by the students. Crew 84 is based at Garfield High School, and works in cooperation with the SeaMount Institute in Seattle, which is a non-profit organization that offers the opportunity to SCUBA dive, mountain climb, kayak, and much more. This is a volunteer position with food, lodging, and transportation provided. We have our own gear and student staff to work at the rock, so we are just looking for a knowledgeable supervisor. The person must be 21 years old and have climbing credentials, and be comfortable with setting up anchors and belay techniques. There are two sessions: May 21-25 and May 25-29. It could be one or two people who trade sessions. Please contact Tory Malloch if you are interested at: [tmalloch@hotmail.com](mailto:tmalloch@hotmail.com) or (206)527-1216

## Education and Seminars

By Len Kannapell

### **Crevasse Rescue Refresher – Nisqually Glacier**

**Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Whether you just took the Basic Class last year, or do a lot of head scratching when it comes to crevasse rescue ("Let's see, uh, I think you're supposed to..."), this seminar is for you. We'll review the basics of crevasse rescue (assume three on a rope with one victim) and make the practice as real as possible, with an emphasis on safety. Everyone will get a chance to set up a Z-pulley and practice prussiking up the rope.

We'll meet at the Paradise Ranger Station, ready to leave the parking lot at 7 am. The Basic Class will be on the Nisqually the same day, but we will work as a separate group. The Basic Class will also be there on Sunday, and could use your newly refreshed skills – if you would be willing to help out, contact Basic Class Head Instructor Shawn Pare.

Equipment: (standard glacier gear):

- Ice axe with leash
- Picket
- Texas prussiks
- Harness
- Helmet
- Crampons
- Slings and 'biners

More details forthcoming in the May Echo, such as class size and fees, if any. Contact me if you are interested in instructing, too.

Len Kannapell, (206)522-7022(h), kannapell@yahoo.com

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## **Road Opening Updates**

The Carbon River Road by Mount Rainier has already been reopened this year, Cayuse Pass and the North Cascades Highway have estimated opening dates of mid-April, and Chinook Pass should be opened in late May. There's a cool web site tracking the progress of the North Cascades Highway opening activities (including avalanche pictures) at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/northcentral/Maint/Area3/nc2000/nc1.htm>

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## **Maps Online**

All the Washington and Oregon 7.5 minute topographic maps are available for download at [http://www.reo.gov/reo/data/DRG\\_Files/northwest.htm](http://www.reo.gov/reo/data/DRG_Files/northwest.htm)

A guide to other free topographic downloads for other states are available at [http://216.36.33.21/~mgreger/GIS/free\\_drgs.html](http://216.36.33.21/~mgreger/GIS/free_drgs.html)

Topographic maps are available in your web browser at <http://www.topozone.com/>

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## **\* NEW \* Mountaineering Tent for Sale**

I have a 3 man, 4 season REI Geo mountaineering tent for sale. It has never been used and was bought as a back up tent for a cold weather rafting expedition (I'm president of BEWET, the Boeing whitewater club). Current retail price new is \$295, and I'm selling it for \$160. If interested, contact Phill Fisher at (206)544-7666(w), (206)352-6137(h) or [phill\\_the\\_fish@yahoo.com](mailto:phill_the_fish@yahoo.com)

*Seattle Chapter of Boeing Management Association hosts*

## **David Spring Wilderness Preparedness and Survival**

Whether you are camping, mountain climbing, skiing, or taking a family day hike, this is your opportunity to better prepare yourself for wilderness survival, navigation, wise gear and clothing selection.

The Seattle Chapter of BMA welcomes *David Spring*, one of the Northwest's most experienced wilderness instructors. Having taught courses in outdoor skills for over twenty years, he has compiled a remarkable safety record. He has conducted over 400 courses and led over 1000 outings without a single mishap. More importantly, *no graduate of any of his courses has ever been killed on any of their subsequent mountain outings.* To the contrary, on numerous occasions students have credited the skills and information they gained in David's courses with having "saved their life" when confronted with an unexpected wilderness emergency.

With a degree in Education from Washington State University, David has also served as Training Advisor to the Cascade Nordic Ski Patrol and instructor for the Ski Patrol Rescue Team (a division of King County Search and Rescue). His outdoor articles have appeared in the Seattle Times, the Bellevue Journal-American and Signpost magazine. David has also been a presenter for Boeing Alpine club (BOEALPS).

Be prepared to ask questions and learn all you can from this experienced, enthusiastic, safety oriented mountaineer. His entertaining style builds on audience participation.

**Invited:** BMA members and guests (limited to the first 120 people)  
**Date:** Monday, May 8, 2000  
**Time:** 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 4:30 p.m., hors d' oeuvres available until 5:00 p.m.)  
**Location:** T.A. Wilson Room 12M18, 25-01.1 building (Longacres)  
**Cost:** \$5.00 (no shows will be charged)  
**Payroll Control No.:** 4351  
**Event Coordinator:** Kathryn Wyatt, (206)544-5661, M/S 2R-78  
**Deadline:** Wednesday, May 3, 2000  
**Instructions:** Complete the top part of an event reservation card. Check box 1 or 2. Send the signed card to the event coordinator.

If you are interested in attending, but don't happen to be a BMA member it is easy to register for this event. Ask any BMA member or your supervisor to sponsor your attendance. Or call the Event Coordinator for more information.



## **Washington Trails Association gives USFS, Congress failing grades on User Fees**

Washington Trails sharply criticized both Congress and Forest Service for managing its lands beyond closed doors and out of the reach of the people. The new Northwest Forest Pass—which will be required to park at Forest Service trailheads across the state—fails to measure up on three very important points: resource protection, volunteer recognition, and user friendliness. (Editor's note: See following article on the specifics of the new program.)

The problems start with the lawmakers. "Although Congress has the power—and the responsibility—to fully provide for the lands under its care, it hasn't," said Elizabeth Lunney, Executive Director for Washington Trails Association. Lunney notes that WTA can accept a modest user fee, but only if certain criteria are met, including the guarantee to hikers that the fees would be used to protect hiking resources. But those safeguards haven't been put into place, Lunney said.

Adding to these concerns, Lunney points out that the Forest Service developed the Northwest Forest Pass using 'market research' performed by the USFS, rather than direct public comment. This type of 'governance through market research' has not given us a good product. In previous years, volunteers who performed two days of service were guaranteed a free pass. Now that decision is left up to local land managers.

"If volunteers are going to step in where Congress has failed, then those volunteers need to be rewarded. They deserve a free access to the trails they've contributed to. Anyone who spends two days working on a trail ought to be able to hike on that trail," said Lunney. "Two days of work on a trail is the equivalent of a \$150 payment to the Forest Service. Is that not enough to earn a Pass?"

Washington Trails Association is also seriously disappointed in the failure of the Forest Service and National Park Service to work out an agreement that would create one public lands' pass honored on all federal lands in the region. This year's pass will be honored on all U.S. Forest Service lands in the region and at trailheads within the North Cascades National Park, but won't be recognized at Olympic or Mount Rainier National Parks.

*-- excerpted from Washington Trails Association*

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## **Northwest Forest Pass replaces Trail Park Pass**

Beginning in May, the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests will join other National Forests in Oregon and Washington and the North Cascades National Park in implementing a new, simpler recreation user fee system.

"The focal point of the new program is the Northwest Forest Pass, which was developed in response to public comments indicating a need for an easier way to support National Forest recreation through user fees," said Sonny O'Neal, supervisor of the two National Forests.

The Northwest Forest Pass will replace a confusing array of separate fees implemented on National Forests across Oregon and Washington under the national recreation fee demonstration program in recent years, O'Neal noted.

Cost for the annual pass is \$30; the daily pass is \$5. Passes should be available for purchase by May 1, 2000, at all Forest Services offices, from a number of commercial vendors, and through the internet.

Those who volunteer to perform trail maintenance and other recreation-oriented work on the Okanogan and Wenatchee Forests will still have the opportunity to earn a pass, O'Neal noted.

Both the Okanogan and Wenatchee Forests have made adjustments to their recreation fee programs under the new system. On the Okanogan Forest, there will be a change in how user fees are charged for camping and trailhead use.

"Based on what we heard from the public, we have decided to drop the dispersed camping fee on the Okanogan Forest," said Dave Yenke, recreation program manager for the Okanogan Forest.

However, a fee will be required for day or overnight use at trailheads located west of the Okanogan River. The Northwest Forest Pass will be honored at those trailheads, he noted. The Twisp River Horsecamp and Rainy Pass Picnic site/Trailhead are included under the new regional pass. However, a separate fee will be in effect at developed campgrounds in that area and at four campgrounds in the Five Lakes area. There will be no fee for camping in dispersed sites outside regular campgrounds.

Parking at trailheads east of the Okanogan River area and camping at the Crawfish Lake, Lyman Lake, and Sweat Creek Campgrounds will be available free of charge this season.

The Northwest Forest Pass will also replace the Trail Park Pass for parking at trailheads on the Wenatchee Forest. Developed to provide support for maintenance of recreation trails, the Wenatchee Forest received \$194,000 in revenue in 1999. This was the Forest's share of pooled revenues from sales in Puget Sound and Central Washington areas. Under the new regional program, the North Cascades National Park will join the Olympic, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan, and Wenatchee National Forests in revenue sharing. The funds have allowed each of the Wenatchee's ranger districts to accomplish needed recreation work, noted Vladimir Steblina, recreation program manager for the Wenatchee Forest.

"Last year, the Leavenworth District was able to remove logs and debris from 200 miles of trail, provide wilderness ranger presence in the Enchantments area of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and empty remote wilderness outhouses because of these user fee revenues," Steblina said.

Although the Northwest Forest Pass is replacing the Trail Park Pass, any unused Trail Park day passes will continue to be honored, he added.

A number of other user fees on the Wenatchee Forest will also now be covered by the Northwest Forest Pass. The new pass will be honored at dispersed sites in the South Fork Tieton and Peninsula areas on the Naches District, in the Cle Elum Lake area of the Cle Elum Ranger District, and the Chiwawa Valley area of the Lake Wenatchee District.

Also covered under the new pass is the use of the Clear Lake and Rimrock Lake boat launches on the Naches District and use of Antilon Lake and Ramona Campground areas on the Chelan Ranger District during holiday weekends.

Separate fees will remain in effect for overnight wilderness permit reservations in the Enchantments area of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, camping at most developed campgrounds across the forest, and for the use of National Forest and National Park boat docks on Lake Chelan.

"We have already seen good public support for recreation user fees where the funds are reinvested locally for the benefit of recreation resources and the visitors who enjoy them," O'Neal said. Eighty percent of the revenue is returned to the national forests where they were generated.

"My hope is that people will recognize the Northwest Forest Pass as an easier way to continue their support of National Forest recreation needs."

## Cascade Weather Wetness

By Michael Fagin of Washington Online Weather (<http://www.wowweather.com>)

Although spring just started we would like to provide you with some spring/summer weather wisdom. During the months of June through August, the Pacific Northwest can have rapidly changing weather conditions without a weather system moving through. This is the famous marine push.

What usually sets this up is one of two situations. In June we will see a rapid warming of Eastern Washington with temperatures in the mid 90's (F) while the Washington coastal waters are still cool from the winter and spring weather. This will set up a situation of a thermal low in Eastern Washington and a relative higher pressure off the Washington coast. The pressure that I monitor is Seattle relative to Wenatchee. When the pressure at Seattle is at least 3 millibars higher than Wenatchee we will usually see the start of a marine push. If the pressure difference is greater than 6 millibars that is a strong marine push and that will usually bring drizzle to the Washington coast and into Puget Sound. If weather conditions are right the drizzle can become heavy rain

The second type of marine push usually occurs in July and August. This time hot temperatures in the Seattle area will trigger this. When Seattle has at least two days of 90 plus weather this will usually set up a thermal low over the Seattle area and pressure off the Washington coast will be higher. For this marine push one looks at North Bend Oregon relative to Seattle. If the pressure in North Bend is 3 millibars or more greater than Seattle there will be a marine push. This is when we get the strong southwesterly winds.

For the mountaineer this can turn a forecasted cloudy day for the West Cascades into a zero visibility wet type of day quite quickly.

(Editor's note: Wshington Online Weather is a great source for mountain weather forecast, although they only update their forecast each Friday. Very helpful for weekend outings, less so for mid-week ventures.)

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## Snow Anchor Strength Tests

(Editor's note: I found this in the Usenet newsgroup rec.climbing, and thought it might be of interest to folks. Tom is based in Salt Lake City, so he was testing his anchors in the Rockies, which have vastly different snow conditions than we have here in the Cascades. Keep this in mind, and view the test results as comparative only. Also, without actually being present for the testing, we have no way to validate the correctness of the anchor placements, but I'd guess a Search and Rescue team would probably be doing things right.)

On Saturday 3/4/00, we did some pull-testing of snow anchors on our high-angle snow practice. I thought others might be interested in seeing the results. The snow was settled powder with a sun crust on top - generally poor snow for anchors. Snow anchor strength will, of course, vary widely with placement and snow type. These are representative samples only.

- Tom Moyer, Salt Lake County Sheriff's Search and Rescue

- #1: Two equalized flukes (small) - no stomping; 500 lbs
- #2: Two equalized flukes (large) - stomped area and allowed to set for ~15 minutes; stopped test at 1000 lbs, no failure
- #3: Two skis placed horizontally as a deadman - girth hitched in the middle; 640 lbs
- #4: Sitting hip belay; 290 lbs
- #5: Sitting hip belay (after digging a belay seat); 530 lbs
- #6: Boot axe belay; 330 lbs (with launching of belayer)
- #7: Ice axe placed sideways as a deadman; 460 lbs
- #8: Bollard (about 5 ft x 10 ft - 3 wraps of 11mm rope - all reinforcing removed); stopped test at 1000 lbs, no failure

# Web Mountain

## February 19, 2000

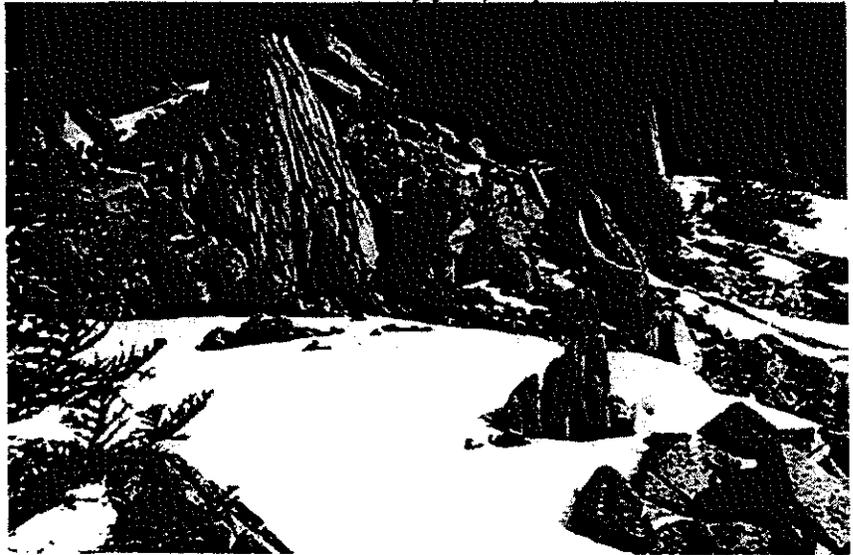
Climbers: Scott and Stacy Drum, Gordon and Tracy Schryer, Steve Fox, Gene Taylor,  
Mike Bingle, Matt Robertson (scribe)

They say the third time's a charm, and so it was with Web Mountain. I'd seen it listed in Dallas Kloke's book "Winter Climbs: One Day Ascents", and its name had appealed to me, so I first started out to explore it practically on Mid-winter's day last year. Denoted only by its 5335' elevation marking, it lies slightly southwest of Spider Lake (thus its name), and just east of Mailbox Peak. After driving I-90 to Exit 38, and following the road to park just outside of the yellow gates that are sometimes locked at 4:00 pm (hint: park outside of these!), Maren and I walked the road beyond the fire training academy, then turned east on the washed out and abandoned road just beyond. Where we were supposed to start heading up the south face toward the west ridge we were pleasantly surprised to find a flagged, but primitive, trail traversing up and east. We followed this trail for a ways, using a piece of nylon rope tied to a tree branch to help cross a stream at one point, and eventually lost the flagging while ascending a bouldery rock field. We continued pushing uphill through two more rock fields before running into snow. The terrain here steepened, and we found ourselves on 20-30 degree bear grass slopes, covered by less than a foot of snow – slippery stuff! Nevertheless, we persevered a while longer before the hour of the day and the angle of the sun forced us to turn back far below the actual ridge line.

The next attempt came in mid-January, just after we received a large snowfall. We were walking in snow from the cars that day, and put on snowshoes part way up the abandoned road. Although we tried again to follow the flagging for the trail, we lost it early on, and simply turned upslope and started climbing. The angle was fairly steep, and the snow was quite deep – even with snowshoes we moved rather slowly. At lunch time we stopped for a rest and some food and discussed our options. It was obvious at this point that we weren't going to make the summit before our turn around time, and unlikely that we would even make it onto the ridge. Seeing that our blue skies and sunshine were turning into clouds and snow we decided to bail and head back down to the cars early.

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, I was back again, optimistic because of good snow conditions and a strong team of climbers. While we were donning our climbing boots and packs, we discussed changing the route a bit by climbing the entire west ridge, rather than trying to go up the south face to get onto the ridge. This looked like a good strategy on the USGS map, and with our new plans in mind I once again walked the approach past the fire academy and headed up the abandoned road. This time, instead of continuing east at the sharp turn in the old road, we continued to near the road's end where a stream intersects it from the east. Here we turned east, first climbing gently sloped terrain, then a steeper,

short gully to gain the west end of the west ridge. Along the way we passed an old truck that had long since been abandoned, its engine pulled out and placed on its flatbed to power a cable lift for some long forgotten logging or mining operation. Once we gained the ridge, the route finding became trivial; just working our way east towards the summit, although the technical demands varied. Here and there a rocky spine would project itself up out of the snow, giving us the opportunity to scramble a bit of snow covered alpine rock or be forced over to the north side of the ridge for a steep traverse. Along the way the wind had scoured the south edge of the ridge, creating some slopes with the hardness



of icy armor that gave us pause as we attempted to kick any kind of dent in them to gain the softer snow above. The slopes beneath us at those times dropped quickly and unpleasantly, and the hardness of the snow made stopping a slip by an ice axe arrest seem quite unlikely. I started eyeing the soft snow of the bowl to the north of the ridge, hoping that

might prove to be an acceptable route for our descent rather than having to attempt plunge stepping down what we were climbing up. The final challenge was saved for near the end, with the true summit in sight only a hundred yards or so away. I was standing on a small rocky outcrop, looking at another rocky outcrop 6 or 8 feet away from me. In between was a fin of snow, perhaps 5 or 6 feet high and about 4 inches wide on top. To my left the north face dropped 50, maybe 75, feet steeply into trees. To my right was a 6 foot fall onto a sloped rocky shelf, then a long steep ride down the south face on that armor hard snow. The fin wasn't wide enough to get an ice axe placement in – it was just going to be a question of 3 or 4 balanced steps before reaching the security of the rock on the other side, and the certainty of the summit beyond. To add spice to this section, the wind was gusting between 15 and 25 mph from the south – not really enough to knock you around unless you were standing on a narrow fin of snow, hoping it wouldn't collapse under your weight, and trying hard not to tip left nor right. I must have stood there for almost a full minute before committing myself to the crossing – three quick sideways steps, and a solidly placed ice axe in the snow on the other side allowed me to breathe again. The short walk from here to the summit provided me with fabulous views: north to Baker and Shuksan; east to Stuart; south to Rainier; and west to the skylines of Bellevue and Seattle dwarfed by the Olympics.

It turned out I wasn't the only one pondering the wisdom of descending some of the harder slopes we had climbed. From the summit we had a pretty good view of what the descent route down into the north bowl would be like, and quickly and unanimously agreed that would be a safer, and more fun, choice. We had a few open slopes to cross that demanded respect because of the avalanche potential, but soon we dropped down onto lightly wooded slopes, with several feet of untracked powder over an icy hard crust – perfect for walking and playing in the snow, with no stress of exposure or difficulty. Having far too much energy, Scott and Steve strapped on snowshoes and proceeded to behave like two terrier puppies that hadn't been outside in weeks. Running up and down the slopes, repeatedly climbing the best glissading slopes to see who could catch the most air from the ramp at the bottom of the slope, and in general egging each other on to see who could burn off the most energy kept the rest of us quite entertained for a mostly enjoyable walk out. At the top of the valley that spawned the stream we had followed on the way up, we hit a short section of jackstrawed logs that slowed our progress, but soon after that we were back to the old abandoned truck (which Steve climbed into in an attempt to drive home a souvenir), then down onto the old road and an easy walk back to the cars.



Web Mountain turned out to be a much more challenging, and much more enjoyable, climb than I was originally anticipating. The seriousness of the climb certainly depends on the snow conditions this time of year, and could range anywhere from an easy scramble to a strenuous snow outing. The flagged trail I stumbled onto has piqued my interest in returning once the snow melts off to see what kind of trail has been created and how close to the summit it gets. At one point in time, you could count on escaping the crowds of Mt. Si and still getting a great conditioning hike in by heading east to Mailbox peak. These days, even Mailbox is seeing its share of crowds. Perhaps Web Mountain, being the next summit eastward, will become the next "solitude" summit, providing a steep workout once the snows have melted, and an interesting challenge while snow covered.

Getting there: From Seattle, head east on I-90, taking Exit 38. Turn right at the end of the off ramp, and follow this road about 2 miles under a freeway underpass. Just after the underpass the road turns right. Park here, just outside of the gates. There's a sign that warns that these gates may be locked at 4:00 pm. Hike the road for about .6 mile and find an abandoned and washed out road bed on the right. Follow this rough road for about 2 miles until it is intersected by a good sized stream. From here, head up and onto the west ridge, following it to the summit. (You can find more pictures from this climb at [http://home1.gte.net/mandm/web\\_mountain.html](http://home1.gte.net/mandm/web_mountain.html))

To order a copy of Dallas Kloke's book "Winter Climbs: One Day Ascents" you can contact Dallas at 4012 M Ave, Anacortes, WA 98221 or call him at (360)293-2904. Dallas also has a new book out on bouldering and short climbing routes at Mt. Erie.

## The Continuing Adventures of Dan Goering...

Greetings again from Santiago! Here's the tales from my recent attempt on Aconcagua - the highest peak in the Americas. I'm sending it hastily out before I run off to catch a bus to Puerto Montt.

Eberhart, puffing loudly and fast in the cold relentless wind, dropped his pack and sat heavily where we huddled in the scant shelter of the reddish orange rock just beyond the ruins of the small wooden A-frame of the Independencia shelter. Silently reprimanding myself for not taking care of it in the warmth of the tent that morning, I hastily rubbed the greasy white sunscreen onto my face and neck, with my temporarily gloveless fingers going numb from the chill. The harsh white light of the sun, which had appeared an hour earlier, seemed to offer no heat at all. David shivered next to me as I finished, tugged my gloves and overmitts back on, and slapped my hands together to try to coax some blood back into the fingertips. It didn't help much, so I tucked my hands inside my wind jacket and under my down coat, seriously wondering if I should turn back and descend to the warmth of my sleeping bag 620 meters below. The summit lay waiting 560 meters above.

Ten days earlier, the whole venture of climbing Aconcagua had finally gotten off to a very auspicious start in the small community of Puente del Inca (2720 m). The sun shone warmly as I stepped off the Upsullata Express bus just after 10am that Friday morning, still yawning after my nap during the 4 hour ride from Mendoza, Argentina. Within the space of only 30 minutes, I found storage for my extra baggage, scored a free 3km ride up to the park with 2 Japanese climbers and their guide, and was signed in by the Guardaparque personnel. Ready to go! Things could not have gone more smoothly and quickly, and I welcomed this good omen. I was setting off solo and with my trusty Sierra Designs "Summermoon" light 3 season tent. It had seen some good action in the Cascades of home but probably wouldn't perform well if some of the Aconcagua's fabled 100 mph winds decided to have a blow. I just trusted that I would meet one of the large number of people who climb the normal route on Aconcagua and they would be willing to share their sturdier tent.

The first camp on the approach, Confluencia (3500 m), came into view about 2 p.m. after three relatively pleasant hours of hiking. A huge orange banner proclaimed "Welcome" to this small enclave of tents and boulders perched in the sparse, brittle green and brown scrub grass of the Horcones Valley. The occupants consisted of aspiring climbers like myself, still fresh from leaving town and the small yellow birds that flitted about their business.

The walk in had been only relatively pleasant due only to the huge pack I was hauling: all camping and cold weather gear plus food for 15 days stuffed inside and crowned by my bulky lavender plastic boots dangling from under each side of the floating lid. I had skipped hiring mules to save the \$120 fee and, still feeling strong on arrival, this seemed now to have been an OK decision. Good things continued to come my way.

A tent site sheltered on the up and downwind sides by two huge boulders was perfect, available and instantly became mine!! As I moved in, Paul Giddings (English) and Dave Green (Hawaiian) emerged from the tent next door and said hello. We'd met in Mendoza's Campò Base youth hostel the previous week as I sat waiting for a stove and plastic boots being mailed from the US. With them was Hugo Cannon, another Brit they had hooked up with on their way in. We all traded backgrounds and stories that night as we cooked our dinners together before heading to bed. I slept outside the tent and fell asleep with my glasses on, the Milky Way smeared overhead and Orion doing a cartwheel across the southern hemisphere's black sky. The "International Soloists Aconcagua 2000 Expedition" had begun to form, though I didn't know it yet.

Dave and Paul departed on their long walk up to the main base camp at Plaza de Mulas (4300 m) the next morning, and I set out with just some food and water on an acclimatization run to Plaza Francia (4300 m), the seldom used base camp situated beneath the intimidating ice walls and crumbling rock of Aconcagua's south face. The summit was buried in an ominous gray lenticular cloud, indicating high winds above and a bad day for those high on the mountain. On my way up, a hawk soared close overhead, wing and tail constantly and rapidly adjusting for control in the gusty wind. Turning, he hovered 10 ft over me and we studied each other for perhaps 5 seconds before he landed close by on a boulder. I began to edge slowly over, hoping for a good photo. At about 5 feet distance, he calmly flapped off to the next rock putting a bit more space between us.

I arrived at Plaza Francia, a desolate patch of flat sand and gravel amidst the rolling piles of reddish glacial debris, to find one lonely yellow and white tent and some haul bags, apparently marked with the name of some German climbing club. The tent was quiet and I scanned the rotten rock bands and dirty connecting ice that disappeared into the swirling gray clouds above for some sign of these stout climbers. Nothing. Huddling behind a rock wind wall to rest and eat a bit of lunch, the 30 to 40 mph winds which had been growing all morning hissed through the cracks and spread a fine red dust over everything. A light, dry snow began to fall.

Back at Confluencia, another familiar face had taken over Paul and David's tent site. Eberhart Schnell (a good beer-drinking Bavarian who rivals me in height) had arrived at Campo Base my last night and we traded stories of climbing Kilimanjaro and other adventures over a big BBQ dinner on the back patio. Talk had strayed briefly to possibly collaborating on the climb if things happened to work out. He too had made the walk in without the aid of mules. He had a nice sturdy tent. The next morning, I would find my way up to Plaza de Mulas and Eberhart perhaps the day after.

You start to experience the real nature of Aconcagua about an hour's walk above Confluencia. The scrub grass and narrow dirt trail slowly become just dirt and you find yourself peering into the distance for the end of the broad flat expanse of plantless reddish sand and gravel stretching out ahead. The massif of the mountain itself towers off to the right, the true summit only a guess somewhere amidst the crumbling rock and vast slopes of scree descending from above. Occasional large boulders dot the valley ahead, and you fix your eyes on these as you walk, their presence allowing one of the few signs of progress as your feet crunch interminably across the broad expanse. The first men to step out on Mars might be greeted with a similar view. I tried to enjoy the beauty of this stark scene and not think about the distance as I moved myself and the big pack step by step forward.

My pack hit the ground six hours later with a muffled "whumpf" and I surveyed the Plaza de Mulas (4300 m). Certainly not a plaza like the central square found in most South American cities. No paved walks, trees and statues here, but a large scattering of multicolored dome tents among the rocky rubble of the Horcones Superior glacier. A pair of white and blue canvas Quonset huts of the Guardeparque (rangers). The big square heavy tents of the mule service and restaurant companies, names blazoned on the sides and popular music drifting out from tape players. Clusters of mules unloading climbers and their supplies or loading garbage and dusty equipment for those on their way home. The glacial lakes and white spikes of neve penitente on the Glacier Horcones Superior, sweeping upwards to summit the peaks of the snow covered ridge behind. And, of course, the steep red dirt and rock slopes, crisscrossed with boot paths leading onward and upward to higher camps and Aconcagua's summit.

Paul, David and Hugo gave me an enthusiastic welcome as I walked through the tents, evaluating the available sites for wind protection. They arrived just hours earlier after camping in the ruins of the slightly lower Columbia shelter to escape the previous day's strong, fatiguing winds. With no site offering much wind protection, I created a new site tucked close by the mess tent of the Juan Hererra mule company which I reasoned would offer a wind break in at least one direction. All three graciously helped me erect my tent and pile some rock walls for an added (albeit minor) bit of wind break, before a thunderstorm dumping fresh corn snow chased all into the tents for a well deserved rest.

The next day we all started the arduous task of acclimatizing our bodies to high altitude: a strict regimen of lounging, hackey sack, eating and ping pong. The ping pong was courtesy of the hotel, a 25 minute walk from the camp sites. The four of us strolled over to see what it offered and for Paul and Hugo to try to call their girlfriends. It was February 14th, Valentine's Day. Neither one succeeded in getting through, but David and I managed to get our hearts racing playing ping pong. The hotel is basic but nice. Average (so I was told) food (and beer) for all three meals available at above average rates. \$2 a day gives you access to an indoor cooking and common area. \$17 a day buys a dorm bed and lots of wool blankets. Smaller rooms with attached bath are available for around \$40 a person.

Eberhart had arrived late that afternoon, totally beat from the long haul up, and joined our growing tent community. Over dinner, talk centered on plans for moving up to the higher camps. Paul, David and Hugo planned to carry a load of food and fuel and Hugo's tent up to Canada Place (4910 m) the next day and offered to let me store some of my things in it. Reports of food and fuel being stolen from caches had us planning to lock our supplies in a tent at each camp. Eberhart and I discussed leaving one of our tents at Plaza de Mulas and moving up with just his stronger tent. He decided he would also carry a few things to Canada, going light since he hadn't had an acclimatization day at Mulas yet. By the time David and Paul broke out a jumbo can of peaches to share with everyone for dessert, we had all decided to combine forces. The "International Soloist Aconcagua 2000 Expedition" was underway!

Over the next five days, we fell into the routines of high altitude climbing. Breathing hard and walking slowly, carrying loads of food, fuel and gear up switch-backing dirt boot paths to camps at Canada Place (4910 m), Nido de Condors (5380 m) and Berlin (5780 m). Erecting tents and anchoring them to piles of rocks. Afternoons reading, napping, and manning the stoves to melt piles of snow and ice for plenty of drinking water (a key to helping the body acclimatize). Laughing at Hugo's (almost) daily joke, the best of which ended with "You don't come here for the hunting, do you mate?". The daily arrival of, and banter with, the three cheerful Belgian men who were following one day behind our schedule. Perhaps best of all, shivering together in the growing cold gazing at the sun sinking into the curve of the cumulus clouded horizon. The disk turning from orange to half red to just a fingernail's sliver of purple which finally winks out into twilight as we all run for the warmth of our tents and sleeping bags. And then the long cold 11 to 12 hour nights spent zipped tight into warm sleeping bags, with no desire to emerge until direct sun warms the tent around 9 am the next morning.

These long days had plenty of time to talk and we all began to get to know one another better. Dave and Paul are both seasoned travelers and, having met trekking in Nepal a number of years ago, have been meeting up for multi-month adventures periodically ever since. Dave, 28, and one of the strongest guys at altitude I've met, works as a waiter at a sports bar in Hawaii to finance his long periods of travel. He's been on the road more than off in the past 10 years and has some amazing tales. Paul, 27, was last working at an orphanage in Romania where the cold of winter rivaled the cold of Aconcagua. He and his father have bicycled extensively all over Europe. Hugo is a student working in Mendoza, Argentina at the moment. We all liked to admire the pictures of his very pretty Scottish girlfriend. Eberhart is a bookseller, manning the family shop in Freising Germany. He's an avid adventurer and photographer and he evoked more than a bit of lens envy from Paul and Hugo with the big telephoto lens on his Nikon FM2. He'd rather have a more active job, but his only sister refused to step into the family business which left him to do it. We all threatened to show up in Freising the beginning of next September to partake in the local beer festival and see one hell of a slide show!

Sunday, March 20th. It's 5:00 am and the air in our tent is frosty as Eberhart and I dress and eat a quick breakfast. The stove in the vestibule emits a steady, reassuring hiss as it heats water for our bottles. Dave and Paul rustle about and talk quietly next door. Hugo is gone now, descended to Plaza de Mulas the day before with a persistent altitude headache. The rest of us had moved up here to Berlin to launch our summit bid. At 6:30, we move off into darkness softened by the first dim thoughts of dawn beginning to fade the stars overhead.

8:30 am finds three of us huddled against the wind outside the Independencia shelter, waiting for Paul to arrive. My fingertips and toes feel wooden with cold and I'm a bit jealous of the heat packs Dave has in his gloves. I don't want to get frostbite. Maybe I should turn back. I'm on the fence and only getting colder. Better move now if I'm going to. I shoulder my pack and move up the next slope, now white with snow instead of the red rock dirt prevalent below. Sorry I couldn't wait for Paul, but focused on continuing.

Forty meters higher on a snow covered flat, the wind is miraculously absent and the sun begins to warm. The next stretch is a traverse on snow and will be easier with crampons. Dave and Eberhart arrive and sit next to me to don theirs. Dave says Paul has turned back. We all fiddle with our crampons, my balky straps requiring some bare-handed work to get them on, but the sun is working its magic. We all soon move out into the clusters of people making their way single file upwards along the narrow track.

Back into the shadow of the mountain, my fingers and toes again begin to go cold. Need to move as quickly as possible. Generate some heat and regain the sun. The tents at Nido de Condores come into view far below down the huge scree slope. .... Step .... Breathe .... Step .... Breathe .... The path begins to steepen and each step in the loose, shifting dirt and gravel takes concentration to maintain balance and avoid slipping backwards. I look quickly back and spot Dave and Eberhart moving behind. All are moving well. The sunlit slopes ahead are finally approaching. I'm not turning back now.

Sun at last!! I climb a bit further and then stop to rest and wait for David and Eberhart. Here in the sun and with no wind, I can comfortably take my gloves off. Dave arrives looking tired but strong as he has through the whole trip. Eberhart is puffing like a steam locomotive and announces in his German accented English, "I am feeling very ... Damaged!" We watch the climbers below us struggle upwards in slow motion. Above us, the loose rock slopes of "The Canaleta" (little pass ?) steepen precipitously, looking like nasty, tiring work. But we all can sense the summit and this drives us onwards.

At 12:30 pm, I scramble over just one more rise of snow crusted rock and am surprised to step onto a broad gently sloping plateau marked by a small cross on its upper end. The summit of Aconcagua! The sense of accomplishment rushes in and I pivot to take in the 360-degree panorama under the clear deep blue sky. I'm here! I had expected a long, flat final traverse along a ridge. Dave and Eberhart in turn pop over the edge and join me, marveling at the display before us. We're blessed with a now nearly windless afternoon. Steep nearby summits with their fluted, snow covered sides descending precipitously. Layer after layer of further peaks patterned in shades of red. The curve of the west horizon, disappearing into the Pacific? I can imagine it even if not quite able to see the waves. We all shake hands, smiling. The photos start and we mill about, taking in the scene as other climbers arrive. Dave announces he's going to spew and follows through. I feel fine other than a slight headache and tiredness. Eberhart says he's exhausted, but it doesn't slow his photography down a bit. Dave and I play a bit of ceremonial summit hackey sack, difficult at 6962 meters and while wearing heavy, cumbersome plastic boots. Finally after over an hour we turn and begin the long descent, during which I take my turn to punt my summit snacks.

Paul is waiting with congratulations back at Berlin when we arrive around 4:30 pm, as are the Belgians who just arrived from Nido de Condores. The summit is now partially hidden in cumulous clouds that have been rising all afternoon and before dusk a steady snow is falling. We have had incredible good fortune with the weather, which has been excellent since our arrival at Plaza de Mulas. We all retire early without waiting for sunset.

A late start the next day still easily gets us down the rapid 1500-meter descent back to Plaza de Mulas. My tent left behind with extra food and gear is still in good shape. Hugo is gone, but left us with quite a lot of extra food and David prepares an amazing dinner while the rest of us are napping away in the tents: a salad of canned tuna and fresh diced carrots seasoned with lemon juice, a pile of Hugo's pasta topped with tomato salsa and parmesan, and a big can of David and Paul's fruit cocktail for dessert! David and Paul had muled in 21 days worth of provisions and had shared generously of their tuna, carrots, bread and other niceties through the whole trip. I had accepted gratefully in light of my minimalist light weight fare, but after picking up a load of Hugo's extra soup mixes and such, realized I might be carrying nearly as much dinner food off the mountain as I had carried in!!

The expedition broke up the next morning with Dave and Paul heading back out through Confluencia. Their packs were heavy with their equipment and the garbage from the pile of food that had been so easy to mule in. Eberhart and I were opting to do the longer exit to Puente de Vacas which involved hauling everything back up to Berlin and then traversing out past the Polish Glacier. On the way, we would see the other side of the mountain and at least have some new scenery on the long walk.

Four days later, I was standing beside the highway at Puente de Vacas, very dusty and a bit ripe, hitching a ride the 17 km back to Puente del Inca. Eberhart had left 20 minutes earlier with a Chilean family who had room for only one. A big Mercedes bus with its destination "Santiago" displayed in the front window swung onto the shoulder and pulled its nose right up to my pack. Everyone in the front of the bus was leaning forward looking at me and among the faces I spotted Dave and Paul, grinning ear to ear and hardly recognizable with the clean shaven faces and combed hair! They'd talked the bus (which usually doesn't stop at Puente de Vacas) into giving me a ride! The conversation was quick and frenzied. The man riding shotgun opened the luggage door and started dragging my pack towards it. I asked how much the short ride would cost me. He waved me to hurry and get on the bus. I asked again with no response. And one more time. He said \$10 - a steep price for such a short ride and I declined. As the bus pulled out, Paul and Dave waved goodbye and shouted they'd call me in Santiago in a few days.

I caught up with Eberhart in Puente del Inca courtesy of a jeep and its owner who runs a small mule company on Aconcagua. We spent the next day together eating well, drinking beer, and exploring the wind swept town. It was once a stop on the railway crossing the Andes between Argentina and Chile, but the railway died when the highway was completed 20 years ago and with no scheduled stop, it has faded to a ghost of its former self. Gnarled bare wires snake and twist in the wind between unused telegraph poles outside the former railway station. The station is now a budget climber's refugio run by a Bolivian woman. Life for the few locals centers around the cluster of souvenir stands, hotel, and the couple restaurants where the busses make their brief stops. Only the nearby park entrance, a few minor skiing opportunities, and the natural bridge keep the town alive.

The bridge is a natural stone formation spanning the Rio de Las Cuevas, stained yellow from the hot, sulfurous geothermal water bubbling from the ground all around it. Underneath the bridge, stone buildings carved into the soft rock house natural baths and show a mix of Inca stonework from the original developers and more recent, though less aesthetic, improvements. The water is just warm enough, but effervesces with natural bubbles. Soaking after weeks in the cold is pure pleasure! Across the river a beautiful simple stone church sits in the unkept fields beyond the springs. Sitting inside with the patchwork of sun filtering in and the ever present wind moaning through the corrugated tin roof above, you can sense a bit of the loneliness and desolation this place seems to feel.

A visit to the small cemetery on the edge of town dedicated to climbers who have died on Aconcagua seemed in order and we wandered among the markers. Germans, Italians, Americans, Brazilians. Death, if anything, is not nationalistic or racist. The newest memorial was for a 22 year old Argentinian. January 19, 2000.

At the viewpoint 20 minutes above town, Aconcagua's summit was obscured with clouds and both Eberhart and I were glad to be off the mountain. We retired to the old railway station for a 3-hour nap prior to dinner. The next morning, Eberhart and I too would part ways -- he back home to Germany via Mendoza and Buenos Aires and I off to Santiago.

I will remember Aconcagua and the incredible summit panorama for years to come, but the spirit and friendship of people I met on this adventure is what I will remember more. Dave and Paul and I did get together a couple of times back in Santiago and we'll all be on the Navimag company's Puerto Eden for the four day boat ride down to Patagonia starting Monday. I told them all to watch out for an email announcing a reunion climb of Mt. Rainier in a year or so when I've settled back into Seattle.

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Cirlincione, Glenn	(425) 271-2931	(425) 957-5282	14517 144th Pl. SE	Renton	WA	98059	glenn.cirlincione@boeing.com

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Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Street Address	City	State	Zip	E-Mail
Cirlincione, Sandra	(425) 271-2931		14517 144th Pl. SE	Renton	WA	98059	
Clare, Joseph B.	(206) 729-1487	(425) 827-7701	4920 32nd Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98105	jclare@aesgeo.com
Clow, Scott W.	(253) 661-7190	(425) 477-3454	407 SW 350th Pl.	Federal Way	WA	98023	scott.w.clow@boeing.com
Collins, Raymond F.	(206) 248-2709		11222 27th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98146	73561.436@compuserve.com
Colyer, C. Troy	(206) 720-7294	(425) 234-2424	1120 17th Ave. #301	Seattle	WA	98122	ctroyc@earthlink.net
Conchi, William R.	(425) 486-2144	(425) 266-2576	8211 NE 159th St.	Kenmore	WA	98028	william.conchi@pss.boeing.com
Conder, Bob	(206) 526-2970	(425) 234-6099	3047 NE 98th St.	Seattle	WA	98115	bob.conder@boeing.com
Conder, Reed	(206) 526-2970		3047 NE 98th St.	Seattle	WA	98115	
Conder, Tammie	(206) 526-2970		3047 NE 98th St.	Seattle	WA	98115	
Cook, Paul M.	(425) 806-4867		16300 - 107th Ave. NE	Bothell	WA	98011	
Costello, Daniel M.	(206) 679-0105	(425) 342-0477	1406 N 46th St.	Seattle	WA	98103	daniel.m.costello@boeing.com
Creeden, Dave H.	(425) 334-2266	(425) 266-5026	12316 Williams Road	Everett	WA	98205	david.creeden@pss.boeing.com
Crisan, Victor	(425) 423-8598	(425) 294-5418	10220 Third Ave. SE #1328	Everett	WA	98208	crisan@gte.net
Davies, Douglas C.	(253) 639-0328	(253) 931-2657	25815 135th Lane SE #12	Kent	WA	98042	douglas.c.davies@boeing.com
Davies, Lauris	(206) 784-5203	(206) 553-2857	319 N 74th St.	Seattle	WA	98103	
Davis, Dan	(206) 284-1588		3222 30th Ave. W	Seattle	WA	98199	
Dellarco, David J.	(206) 784-5203	(206) 553-4978	319 N 74th St.	Seattle	WA	98103	
Dennis, Jean M.	(425) 806-4867	(206) 662-4981	16300 - 107th Ave. NE	Bothell	WA	98011	jean.dennis@pss.boeing.com
Downs, Carlaine	(253) 891-1380		16511 38th St. E	Sumner	WA	98390	
Downs, Kenny M.	(253) 891-1380	(253) 931-6407	16511 38th St. E	Sumner	WA	98390	Kenneth.Downs@pss.boeing.com
Drevecky, L. Cheryl	(425) 746-3247	(425) 313-3131	16217 NE 2nd Street	Bellevue	WA	98008	cheryld@sammamishclub.com
Dunn, Anastasia M.	(206) 324-1121	(206) 662-5515	1508 E Spring St.	Seattle	WA	98122	anastasia.dunn@pss.boeing.com
Edgar, Steven R.	(206) 285-6864	(425) 227-2025	801 W. Blaine	Seattle	WA	98119	snedgar@juno.com
Ellis, Scott	(206) 633-1281	(206) 322-7539	2317-1/2 N 45th St. #1	Seattle	WA	98103	sellis6836@earthlink.net
Erickson, Lisa M.	(253) 941-3452	(425) 237-1348	5319 S. 301st Ct.	Auburn	WA	98001	lisa.m.erickson3@boeing.com
Erie, Allen J.	(425) 254-1529	(206) 416-2811	6625 109th Pl. SE	Newcastle	WA	98056	allenerie@mail.com
Estep, Stephen	(206) 935-7181	(206) 416-1245	3808 45th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98116	stephen.l.estep@boeing.com
Fahlstrom, David M.	(206) 361-0290		16860 Hamlin Road NE	Lake Forest Park	WA	98155	fahlstrom1@aol.com
Faulkner, Dwight D.	(425) 821-4268	(206) 662-3114	8624 NE 126th Pl.	Kirkland	WA	98034	dhfaulk@gte.net
Fay, Dennis M.	(425) 271-1145	(425) 237-3615	3501 NE Eighth St.	Renton	WA	98056	dennis.m.fay@boeing.com
Feigenbaum, Brad P.	(425) 557-5572	(425) 865-2118	3650 - 248th Ave. SE	Issaquah	WA	98029	bradfeigenbaum@hotmail.com
Fish, David H.	(425) 868-2915	(206) 433-0199	22405 NE 20th St.	Sammamish	WA	98053	
Fleck, Ronald K.	(425) 255-7403	(425) 965-6235	1700 Field Ave. NE	Renton	WA	98059	ronald.k.fleck@boeing.com
Flippen, Charles H.	(360) 825-0918	(253) 931-9080	503 Warwick St.	Enumclaw	WA	98022	lowrider@foxinternet.net
Fox, Stephen J.	(425) 353-9508	(425) 234-8606	120 SE Everett Mall Way #426	Everett	WA	98208	monte.cristo@boealps.org
Franzen, Signe	(206) 935-6485		2742 46th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98116	
Fraser, Donald M.	(425) 742-5458	(425) 294-5424	14108 61st Place W	Edmonds	WA	98026	donald.m.fraser@boeing.com

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Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Street Address	City	State	Zip	E-Mail
Furuglyas, Mitchell J.	(206) 783-3294	(425) 717-0566	6520 Third Ave. NW	Seattle	WA	98117	mitchell.furuglyas@pss.boeing.com
Gastelum, David P.	(425) 432-3607	(253) 773-2348	21237 SE 280th St.	Maple Valley	WA	98038	gasteldp@gte.net
Gentry, Erin K.	(253) 804-8132		2831 Forest Ridge Dr. SE	Auburn	WA	98092	
Gentry, Stephen R.	(253) 804-8132	(253) 931-5971	2831 Forest Ridge Dr. SE	Auburn	WA	98092	stephen.r.gentry@boeing.com
Gleason, Gregory R.	(206) 935-6485	(425) 294-3759	2742 46th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98116	gregory.gleason@pss.boeing.com
Goodman, Donald J.	(425) 452-9589	(206) 766-2423	1657 105th Ave. SE	Bellevue	WA	98004	donald.goodman@pss.boeing.com
Gorremans, Gary L.	(425) 485-6134	(425) 957-5576	16619 NE 180th Pl.	Woodinville	WA	98072	gary.l.gorremans@boeing.com
Gowan, John J.	(425) 774-4792	(425) 266-1624	22206 48th Ave. W	Montlake Terrace	WA	98043	
Greenfield, Jim	(425) 226-7231		14336 SE 163rd St.	Renton	WA	98058	
Gregg, Julie	(206) 783-3294		6520 Third Ave. NW	Seattle	WA	98117	
Griffin, Michael L.	(253) 840-6500	(425) 237-7451	407 Valley Ave. NE #N-301	Puyallup	WA	98372	michael.l.griffin@boeing.com
Griffin, Patty A.	(253) 840-6500	(360) 893-5250	407 Valley Ave. NE #N-301	Puyallup	WA	98372	mgriffin@gte.net
Grimard, Bruce	(425) 868-8701	(206) 655-6522	23409 NE 19th Drive	Redmond	WA	98053	bruce_grimard@hotmail.com
Grob, Jacob W.	(253) 813-3809	(253) 657-3864	5408 S 236th St.	Kent	WA	98032	jacob.w.grob@boeing.com
Gronau, Chris W.		(425) 965-6546	17727 Spuce Way	Lynnwood	WA	98037	christopher.w.gronau@boeing.com
Grubenhoff, Mark (Sam)	(253) 735-2739	(253) 931-9302	402 F St. SE	Auburn	WA	98002	mark.grubenhoff@pss.boeing.com
Hagman, Tom J.	(206) 937-2952		5922 36th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98126	thomas.j.hagman@boeing.com
Hagman, Valerie J.	(206) 937-2952	(253) 351-7112	5922 36th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98126	
Hahne, Edward H.	(206) 706-4986	(206) 237-8011	6752 Ninth Ave. NW	Seattle	WA	98117	edward.hahne@pss.boeing.com
Hamilton, David W.	(206) 444-4064	(206) 768-7146	9030 Greenwood Ave. N. #205	Seattle	WA	98117	dhamilton@museumofflight.org
Harper, Ken R.	(425) 338-4138	(425) 258-7183	3318 153rd Pl. SE	Mill Creek	WA	98012	kenmaya@aol.com
Harris, Janet	(425) 938-3550	(425) 614-2345	7575 44th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98136	janet.harris@home.com
Harrison, William L.	(206) 633-1220	(206) 662-2487	3721 Meridian Ave. N	Seattle	WA	98103	william.l.harrison@boeing.com
Hasegawa, Kathy H.	(206) 527-5281	(425) 814-5487	6023 41st Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98115	khibachi@aol.com
Heidel, Mark C.	(253) 631-6786	(206) 662-6383	24904 183rd Pl. SE	Kent	WA	98042	mark.c.heidel@boeing.com
Helpenstell, Mark F.	(360) 579-8633	(425) 342-5921	7566 Cultus Bay Road	Clinton	WA	98236	markh@whidbey.com
Hicks, Mark A.	(425) 787-2469		15114 Manor Way	Lynnwood	WA	98037	MAH@prodigy.net
Hollingsworth, Jeff	(253) 631-8979	(425) 227-1412	18723 SE 268th St.	Kent	WA	98042	pnwsfpe@compuserve.com
Holloway, Joyce R.	(425) 888-4434	(425) 477-4393	15704 451st Ave. SE	North Bend	WA	98045	joyce.r.holloway@boeing.com
Hopping, Kenneth A.	(425) 861-1762	(253) 773-9071	4117 145th Ave. NE	Bellevue	WA	98007	kenh@xanadu.ds.boeing.com
Hudson, Timothy H.	(206) 935-4378	(206) 655-8416	6737 38th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98126	timothy.h.hudson@boeing.com
Huls, G. Rick	(206) 246-1454		13937 - 15th Place SW	Burien	WA	98166	
Huls, Paula L.	(206) 246-1454	(253) 657-0526	13937 - 15th Place SW	Burien	WA	98166	paula.huls@boeing.com
Humbert, Richard A.	(206) 783-6126	(425) 237-5572	7032 24th Ave NW	Seattle	WA	98117	richard.humbert@pss.boeing.com
Hunter, Colleen K.	(206) 860-6072	(425) 704-4571	1103 26th Ave. E	Seattle	WA	98112	colleenh@microsoft.com
Hunting, L. Chris	(253) 631-3729	(206) 655-8177	12623 SE 214th St.	Kent	WA	98031	chris.hunting@boeing.com
Hurtado, Eduardo	(425) 227-7685	(206) 544-7728	300 Vuemont Place NE #H-304	Renton	WA	98056	eduardo.hurtado@pss.boeing.com

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Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Street Address	City	State	Zip	E-Mail
Hutto, Frederick M.	(425) 889-5879	(206) 655-0165	1933 4th Pl.	Kirkland	WA	98033	jnfhutto@gte.net
Jackson, Tim S.	(206) 824-8736	(206) 655-1968	25115 11th Ave. S.	Des Moines	WA	98198	timothy.jackson2@pss.boeing.com
Jacobsen, Julie	(425) 255-3428		P.O. Box 59322	Renton	WA	98058	
Jacobsen, Michael T.	(425) 255-3428	(253) 657-1438	P.O. Box 59322	Renton	WA	98058	michael.t.jacobsen@boeing.com
James, Cathy	(425) 861-0455		9722 159th Pl. NE	Redmond	WA	98052	
James, Peter (Tony) A.	(253) 582-1508	(206) 662-8226	6847 Topaz Drive SW	Lakewood	WA	98498	tony.james@fsbti.com
James, Robert	(425) 861-0455	(206) 544-3033	9722 159th Pl. NE	Redmond	WA	98052	rob.james@physics.org
Johns, Sukhui	(425) 254-1529		6625 109th Pl. SE	Newcastle	WA	98056	
Johnson, Ken	(425) 673-4224	(425) 564-7076	21414 48th Ave W #C-101	Mountlake Terrace	WA	98043	xending@hotmail.com
Kaiser-Pare, Pamela	(425) 483-0548	(425) 234-7574	2625 169th St. SE	Bothell	WA	98012	pamela.a.kaiser-pare@boeing.com
Kannapell, Leonard P.	(206) 522-7022	(206) 283-8802	342 NE 58th St.	Seattle	WA	98105	kannapell@yahoo.com
Kannapell, Tuney	(206) 522-9788		4812 37th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98105	tuneyk@cs.com
Kasiulis, Erick M.	(425) 641-9653	(206) 682-6084	12239 SE 61st St.	Bellevue	WA	98006	Ekasiulis@hotmail.com
Keefe, John J.	(425) 822-9889	(425) 865-5865	12808 NE 106th Place	Kirkland	WA	98033	JJ.Keefe@boeing.com
Keleher, Andrew P.			4631 Fowler Ave.	Everett	WA	98203	andrew_keleher@beaerospace.com
Kenison, Brian W.	(253) 852-2981	(206) 544-0545	1212 E Laurel St.	Kent	WA	98031	brian.w.kenison@boeing.com
Kirby, William J	(617) 278-1576		1530 Beacon St., #1203	Brookline	MA	2446	janne_kirby@msn.com
Kness, Steven P.	(253) 838-3860	(206) 544-2711	32320 Second Ave. SW	Federal Way	WA	98023	steven.kness@JSF.boeing.com
Koehler, Erich T.	(253) 588-9803	(253) 773-0714	9010 25th Ave. Ct. S	Tacoma	WA	98499	mtnman@eskimo.com
Koerner, Greg J.	(253) 891-0459	(206) 655-8136	1502 126th Ave. E	Edgewood	WA	98372	greg.koerner@boeing.com
Kongorski, Kenneth D.	(425) 489-0788	(425) 743-8139	12716 NE 200th Pl.	Bothell	WA	98011	KenKongorski@bigfoot.com
Koury, Al	(206) 365-8516		14036 17th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98125	kouryab@msn.com
Krenzer, Randy	(425) 235-8812	(425) 477-3852	17844 156th Pl. SE	Renton	WA	98058	randall.krenzer@pss.boeing.com
Krenzer, Virginia	(425) 235-8812		17844 156th Pl. SE	Renton	WA	98058	
Kulseth, Gregory T.	(206) 542-2136	(425) 294-8797	19316 First Ave. NW	Shoreline	WA	98177	gregory.t.kulseth@boeing.com
Kunz, Robert	(206) 933-8778	(206) 655-7645	4540 45th Ave. SW #406	Seattle	WA	98116	robert.r.kunz@boeing.com
Lambeth, Micah D.	(206) 932-0436	(206) 655-7314	3403 63rd Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98116	micah.d.lambeth@boeing.com
Lane, Christopher P.	(425) 487-3144	(425) 717-3836	9907 NE 204th Place	Bothell	WA	98011	cplane@wa.freei.net
Lane, Pauline Y.	(425) 487-3144		9907 NE 204th Place	Bothell	WA	98011	
Larson, David E.	(425) 417-2401	(206) 655-9161	315 - 5th Ave S. #101	Kirkland	WA	98033	runhills@gte.net
Leibfried, Lisa L.	(425) 255-8815	(253) 683-8281	P.O. Box 58809	Seattle	WA	98138	lisa_leibfried@hotmail.com
Leicester, Jack	(206) 546-2770		1837 N 200th St.	Seattle	WA	98133	
Loewenherz, Carrie A.			1616 N 36th Street Apt. A	Seattle	WA	98103	cloewenh@u.washington.edu
Loois, Ellen W.	(206) 652-2449	(206) 544-5666	1415 2nd Ave. #1704	Seattle	WA	98101	ellen.w.loois@boeing.com
Lopez, Wilfredo L.	(253) 473-4933	(425) 237-2820	1715 S 44th St.	Tacoma	WA	98408	
Marshall, Derek	(425) 883-6354	(425) 342-3454	13336 NE 55th Pl.	Bellevue	WA	98005	dmdesigns@compuserve.com
McCrabb, Kevin L.	(253) 862-9712	(253) 351-5421	11312 - 195th Ave. E	Sumner	WA	98390	kevin.l.mccrabb@boeing.com

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Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Street Address	City	State	Zip	E-Mail
McElmurry, Dave R.	(253) 813-8740	(206) 662-3130	11429 SE 284th St.	Kent	WA	98031	dave.mcelmurry@boeing.com
Menzer, Art H.	(704) 814-7192	(704) 387-0228	2709 Providence Spring Lane	Charlotte	NC	28270	ahmenzer@excite.com
Menzer, Kim A.			2709 Providence Spring Lane	Charlotte	NC	28270	k_menzer@hotmail.com
Mikos, John V.	(253) 886-0929	(425) 237-3597	29121 236th Ave. SE	Black Diamond	WA	98010	Dirthersh@aol.com
Mockli, Annette	(425) 820-2187	(425) 888-1223	8108 NE 131st St.	Kirkland	WA	98034	mockli@jps.net
Moeller, Frederick M.	(425) 379-9714	(425) 717-4324	1232 Mill Creek Blvd. #K204	Mill Creek	WA	98012	frederick.m.moeller@boeing.com
Mondrzyk, Robert J.	(425) 432-9578		23805 SE 208th	Maple Valley	WA	98038	
Munoz, Paul D.	(253) 859-9426	(425) 237-4154	10818 SE 232nd Pl.	Kent	WA	98031	paul.munoz@pss.boeing.com
Munoz, Valerie D.	(253) 859-9426		10818 SE 232nd Pl.	Kent	WA	98031	
Murray, Ronald B.	(360) 939-2419	(425) 266-3879	26332 77th Ave. NW	Stanwood	WA	98292	murlab@gte.net
Nagode, Steven P.	(253) 941-5629	(253) 891-2577	1108 SW 310th St.	Federal Way	WA	98023	snagode@rei.com
Nelson, Diane	(253) 859-5746	(425) 237-1606	4629 Kent Court	Kent	WA	98032	kurtdiane@aol.com
Nelson, Kurt	(253) 859-5746		4629 Kent Court	Kent	WA	98032	
Nelson, Maren	(425) 822-0455		6509 114th Ave. NE	Kirkland	WA	98033	
Neuberger, Michael W.	(425) 228-9764	(425) 234-4512	16624 133rd Pl. SE	Renton	WA	98058	michael.neuberger@pss.boeing.com
North, Julia A.	(425) 868-0534	(425) 455-1128	PO Box 40585	Bellevue	WA	98005	julia@pacificbag.net
Oliver, Janet C.	(425) 413-0298	(206) 389-7822	18017 187th Ave. SE	Renton	WA	98058	oliverj2@msn.com
Ott, Dale	(253) 838-8314	(253) 351-5421	32521 41st Ave. SW	Federal Way	WA	98023	
Packer, Robert	(425) 259-4847	(425) 342-6385	1209 Madrona Ave.	Everett	WA	98203	robert.l.packer@boeing.com
Pare, Shawn M.	(425) 483-0548	(425) 342-7134	2625 169th St. SE	Bothell	WA	98012	pare@seanet.com
Patton, Daniel	(206) 440-8684	(425) 237-0912	14327 36th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98125	danielpatton@yahoo.com
Perrin, Marvin D.	(206) 932-5381	(253) 773-9950	6742 37th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98126	marvin.perrin@pss.boeing.com
Perrin, Marvin N.	(253) 838-9126		37210 32nd Ave. S	Auburn	WA	98001	
Pho, Hau T.	(206) 297-1830	(425) 294-3423	913 N. 72nd Street	Seattle	WA	98103	hau.t.pho@boeing.com
Pirson, Christopher J.	(425) 432-9593	(425) 477-4711	22130 238th Pl. SE	Maple Valley	WA	98038	chris.pirson@boeing.com
Plimpton, John M.	(206) 525-3786	(253) 924-3057	8760 Sand Point Way NE	Seattle	WA	98115	john.plimpton@weyerhaeuser.com
Pollock, John		(206) 365-9192	P.O. Box 27344	Seattle	WA	98125	
Polz, Thomas	(253) 941-9932	(206) 662-8630	27th Place S. #M-304	Kent	WA	98032	thomas.polz@fsbti.com
Price, Earl L.	(253) 848-7544	(425) 237-8671	12344 Tatoosh Road E	Puyallup	WA	98374	mtclimr@worldnet.att.net
Privett, Richard T.	(206) 784-4164	(206) 662-1520	1757 NW 59th St., #302	Seattle	WA	98107	richard.t.privett@boeing.com
Pugh, R. Paul	(253) 813-2139	(206) 544-0965	6707 S 239th St. #D104	Kent	WA	98032	paul.pugh@pss.boeing.com
Quinton, Brent D.	(360) 653-6098	(425) 342-4966	5629 145th St. NE	Marysville	WA	98271	brent.d.quinton@boeing.com
Rammer, Roger J.		(206) 544-9636	24907 168th Pl. SE	Kent	WA	98042	Roger.Rammer@pss.boeing.com
Reed, Dale R.	(206) 243-9129		12027 Tenth Ave. S	Seattle	WA	98168	dale-reed@worldnet.att.net
Reed, Hank D.	(253) 639-3115	(425) 234-8689	12917 SE 231st Way	Kent	WA	98031	hreed@gte.net
Retka, Paul J.	(206) 431-5771	(253) 773-0152	16640 51st Ave. S	Seatac	WA	98188	paul.j.retka@boeing.com
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Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Street Address	City	State	Zip	E-Mail
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Roberts, Glenn L.	(425) 868-8515	(425) 785-0191	659 East Lk Sammamish Pky. NE	Redmond	WA	98053	
Robertson, Matthew R.	(425) 822-0455	(425) 957-5691	6509 114th Ave. NE	Kirkland	WA	98033	matt.robertson@boeing.com
Rogers, Thomas A.	(425) 837-0598	(253) 773-8517	23907 SE 46th Pl.	Issaquah	WA	98029	thomas.a.rogers@boeing.com
Roos, John Bryan	(650) 965-0514		229 Jason Way	Mountain View	CA	94043	john.b.roos@boeing.com
Roper, John	(425) 746-8462		14332 Somerset Blvd. SE	Bellevue	WA	98006	
Rowe, Robert A.	(206) 232-1988		P.O. Box 1373	Mercer Island	WA	98040	ASSISTU@AOL.COM
Rudesill, Christopher C.	(206) 729-0640	(425) 965-5920	110 NE 62nd St.	Seattle	WA	98115	christopher.c.rudesill@boeing.com
Rusho, Katy	(425) 787-2469	(425) 258-3431	15114 Manor Way	Lynnwood	WA	98037	krusho@prodigy.net
Ryan, Tom	(206) 527-2724	(425) 487-8706	7036 19th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98115	Tom-P.Ryan@frco.com
Ryder, Gary G.	(206) 675-8530	(206) 655-2019	3630 Wallingford Ave. N. #2	Seattle	WA	98103	ggryder@classic.msn.com
Sanders, Doug G.	(425) 252-5331	(800) 579-1260	1605 Oakes Ave.	Everett	WA	98201	dougsander@aol.com
Sangesland, Oddvar	(206) 481-0869	(425) 234-5904	19217 58th Ave. NE	Kenmore	WA	98028	oddvar.sangesland@boeing.com
Schalla, James P.	(206) 526-7900	(425) 717-3865	1816 N. 88th Street	Seattle	WA	98103	james.p.schalla@boeing.com
Schelle, James M.	(206) 478-6004	(425) 965-6131	1007 Crown Drive	Everett	WA	98203	jim_schelle@hotmail.com
Schmelzer, Jerry J.	(253) 852-2856	(206) 544-9809	19218 102nd Ave. SE	Renton	WA	98055	jerome.schmelzer@pss.boeing.com
Shetter, Martin T.	(425) 641-8436	(425) 703-6343	4617 149th Ave. SE	Bellevue	WA	98006	martsh@microsoft.com
Shingler, Don K.	(206) 367-5930	(425) 237-0348	1615 N 145th St.	Seattle	WA	98133	Don@seattlesafari.com
Short, Andrew J.	(206) 522-4023	(206) 621-2489	7747 Bagley Ave N	Seattle	WA	98103	andrew.short@guycarp.com
Soncrant, Charles U.	(425) 391-1193	(206) 766-2578	24520 SE 46th St.	Issaquah	WA	98029	cu_soncrant@hotmail.com
Soncrant, Lois	(425) 391-1193		24520 SE 46th St.	Issaquah	WA	98029	
Steiner, David S.	(206) 526-8717	(425) 266-1614	10315 38th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98125	david.s.steiner@boeing.com
Steiner, Natalie	(206) 526-8717		10315 38th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98125	
Stephan, Len	(206) 364-8993		12019 6th Ave. NW	Seattle	WA	98177	lpstep@scn.org
Stephens, David A.	(425) 774-1396	(425) 477-3912	20107 76th Ave. W	Lynnwood	WA	98036	david.a.stephens@boeing.com
Stephenson, Ronald R.	(253) 288-9393	(253) 657-3571	12013 SE 316th Street	Auburn	WA	98092	rrstephe@gte.net
Stewart, Christopher B.	(206) 244-1736	(206) 655-3587	16710 51st Ave. S	Seattle	WA	98188	chris.stewart@prodigy.net
Stewart, Tom	(206) 878-4070	(206) 662-2561	21233 First Place S.	DesMoines	WA	98198	Clarence.Stewart@F22.Boeing.com
Stoker, Jan	(425) 271-3492		17650 - 134th Ave SE #H-302	Renton	WA	98058	
Stoker, Robert W.	(425) 271-3492	(425) 234-8714	17650 - 134th Ave SE #H-302	Renton	WA	98058	rob.stoker@gte.net
Storey, Melissa	(425) 641-9653		12239 SE 61st St.	Bellevue	WA	98006	Mary.Storey@pss.boeing.com
Strauss, Nick A.	(817) 453-0968	(253) 854-9950	2616 Wild Ivy Trail	Mansfield	TX	76063	nicknchris@juno.com
Sundquist, Beth L.	(206) 789-4185	(425) 266-1437	7021 10th Ave. NW	Seattle	WA	98117	beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com
Szabo, Edith P.	(206) 548-9557		124 NE 52nd St.	Seattle	WA	98105	eszabo@wolfenet.com
Taylor, Debra	(425) 355-8929		1709 105th St. SW	Everett	WA	98204	
Taylor, Gene	(425) 277-8038	(206) 544-5491	19914 SE 125th St.	Issaquah	WA	98027	gene.taylor@pss.boeing.com

April, 2000

## BOEALPS Y2000 Membership Roster

Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Street Address	City	State	Zip	E-Mail
Taylor, John W.	(425) 355-8929	(425) 294-6071	1709 105th St. SW	Everett	WA	98204	jdswt@worldnet.att.net
Tessmer, Kevin L.	(206) 525-4177	(206) 766-2327	6549 38th Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98115	kevin.l.tessmer@boeing.com
Thomas, Gordon J.	(206) 824-3348		20217 Sixth Ave. S	Des Moines	WA	98198	gordonjthomas@hotmail.com
Thomas, Su C.	(206) 824-3348		20217 Sixth Ave. S	Des Moines	WA	98198	
Timmerman, Michael T.	(425) 868-7016	(425) 746-9481	22709 NE 18th Pl.	Redmond	WA	98053	timmerma@gte.net
Torok, Mike S.	(206) 243-0834	(206) 544-4684	14404 22nd Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98166	michael.s.torok@boeing.com
Trainer, Vera	(206) 522-7022	(206) 860-6788	342 NE 58th St.	Seattle	WA	98105	vera.l.trainer@noaa.gov
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Urban, Kenneth R.	(253) 859-8474	(425) 237-1974	10832 SE 232nd St.	Kent	WA	98031	kenneth.r.urban@boeing.com
Vanden Brook, James D.	(425) 487-2764	(425) 266-5566	227 219th Pl. SE	Bothell	WA	98021	james.d.vandenbrook@boeing.com
Vetter, Arthur M.	(425) 226-9492	(206) 544-5922	15633 SE 178th Pl.	Renton	WA	98058	arthur.m.vetter@boeing.com
Vetter, Elsa	(425) 226-9492		15633 SE 178th Pl.	Renton	WA	98058	
Vetter, Eric	(425) 226-9492		15633 SE 178th Pl.	Renton	WA	98058	
Vetter, Scott	(425) 226-9492		15633 SE 178th Pl.	Renton	WA	98058	
Von Moos, David L.	(206) 527-1781	(206) 655-8392	9010 Eighth Ave. NE	Seattle	WA	98115	david.vonmoos@pss.boeing.com
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Waldron, Martha J.	(206) 706-4986		6752 Ninth Ave. NW	Seattle	WA	98117	
Walton, Tom R.	(206) 933-9007	(206) 662-1973	3333 56th Ave. SW	Seattle	WA	98116	thompson.r.walton@boeing.com
Wargel, Michael T.	(425) 787-4398	(425) 717-6630	5632 Keystone Place N	Seattle	WA	98103	michael.t.wargel@boeing.com
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Wingren, Erik P.	(206) 246-4906		13600 53rd Ave. S	Tukwila	WA	98168	erik@wingren.com
Wong, Monica M.	(650) 965-0514		229 Jason Way	Mountain View	CA	94043	
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Yabuki, Joe	(425) 821-8417		12822 NW 141st Court	Kirkland	WA	98034	joey@foxinternet.net
Yocum, Thomas E.	(206) 363-6909	(425) 294-5043	3031 NE 137th St. #115	Seattle	WA	98125	thomas.e.yocum@boeing.com
Young, Stephanie L.	(206) 568-0371		2328 Tenth Ave. E #105	Seattle	WA	98102	stephalkings@hotmail.com

# RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name(s)),  
certify that I am aware of all the inherent dangers of mountaineering, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in mountainous terrain, accidents, or illness in remote places without medical facilities, the forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons.

I understand that it is not the function of the activity leaders to serve as the guardians of my safety. I also understand that I am to furnish my own personal equipment and I am responsible for its safety and good operating condition regardless of where I obtained it. I understand and agree that neither the Boeing Employees Alpine Society (BOEALPS) nor its officers, agents, operators, instructors, leaders of club sponsored activities, other assistants and the Boeing Company may be held liable in any way for any occurrence in connection with club activities which may result in injury, death, or other damages to me. In consideration of being allowed to participate in club activities, **I HEREBY PERSONALLY ASSUME ALL RISKS** in connection with said activities, and **I RELEASE** the aforementioned club, officers, agents, operators, instructors, activity leaders and assistants from responsibility for any harm which may befall me while I am engaged in club activities, including all connected risks, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable. **I FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY** the aforementioned entities and Company and persons from any liability, claims, and causes of action which I may have arising out of my enrollment and participation in this club.

I further state that I am 18 years of age or older and legally competent to sign this release (or in the event that I am a minor, my parent or legal guardian must sign this release), that I understand these terms are contractual and not a mere recital, and that I have signed this document as my own free act. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assignees, personal representatives, and for all members of my family, including any minors.

**I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Additional Family:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO BETH SUNDQUIST, M/S 39-PU  
OR: 7021 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Seattle, WA 98117  
OR: beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com

NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY

ALPINE ECHO

***April ECHO staff***

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: Dan Goering, Ed Alejandro,  
Matt Robertson

***Thanks to everyone who submitted activities! I still need more trip report contributors, though. If you have any submissions - anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do - email them to me at matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices will work, give me a call at (425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!***

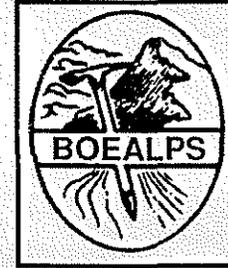


# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

May 2000



## BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY

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			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: On the Summit of Eldorado Peak by Troy Colyer

From Beth Sundquist 39-PU

### May General Meeting

Boealper Tom Stewart will present a slide show covering his alpine style ascent of Denali via the Patterson route, which he did in 1972

**Thursday, May 4th**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting at 7:30 pm**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **New BoBobay...**

Congratulations to David and Natalie Steiner on the birth of their new daughter! Erin Barbara was born at home at 8:45 am on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long at the time of arrival. Erin and Natalie are both doing great.



## **BCC2K Update...**

This year's Basic Class is already half over – hard to believe! Rich Privett, Victor Yagi, Aggie Christie and Jerry Baillie have all been leading their teams through the skills weekends and the experience climbs. Warm temperatures and soft snow conditions have resulted in most teams being denied any summits so far this year, but avalanche awareness teaching opportunities have abounded! Some pictures of some of the outings have been scanned in and added to the Boealps web site – point your browser at <http://boealps.org/basicpix.html> to take a peek. Any students who have pictures they'd like added there can get prints or slides to me for scanning...

## **Upcoming Club Activities...**

The regular slide show programs at our monthly general meetings will take a break starting in July for our usual bevy of special summer-into-fall activities. Watch the Echo for more details, but here's a run down of what's coming:

- The July 6<sup>th</sup> general meeting will be our annual photo competition. Start thinking about which of those climbing pictures you took might win you a prize! (Film and disposable cameras were given away in abundance last year.) There's a special category just for class pictures, and, since there is no Intermediate Class this year, the Basic Class students should have a lock on all those prizes!
- The August 3<sup>rd</sup> general meeting will be our annual summer picnic. I'm guessing it'll be held at the Marymoor climbing structure again this year. Bring some food to share, and your sport climbing gear, 'cause there's only bolts to clip!
- The September 7<sup>th</sup> general meeting will be our annual board elections. Location to be determined, but it will be some place with good food and plenty of beer! If you'd like to get more involved with the club, think about tossing your hat into the ring for one of the board positions. Competition is usually not fierce!
- The October general meeting will be our annual banquet. Current plans (which still have LOTS of time to change) are to hold it at the Mountaineer's clubhouse in Seattle, with Jim Wickwire as the featured speaker

## **Climbs Looking for Leaders...**

Towards the end of the Basic Class, one of the most common questions I hear from the soon-to-be-graduates is "What do I climb next?" To help them out, how about writing up a suggested climb for the Activities section, with a twist. Instead of offering to lead the climb, offer just to organize it – share the route info, pictures you might have taken, gear lists, etc., but leave it up to the folks who sign up for the trip to actually do the climb. The idea is to allow the more experienced members of the club to share their list of some of the best beginner climbs with the new graduates, without actually having to commit a day or weekend (or longer) to going out and re-climbing the peaks. I've started things off with the Tomyhoi Peak offering in this month's Activities section – anyone else out there willing to contribute ideas?

## **Boealps Web Site...**

Our web site is located at <http://www.boealps.org> – Rob James is doing a great job keeping the site packed full of up to date information. If you get your Echo through the U.S. mail, and never seem to get it until the day of our general meeting, browse on over to our website the last week of any month to see who the featured speaker is going to be. Rob gets all the new Echo info as soon as I send it to the print shop, so the web site will always have the latest and greatest before you get a chance to see your Echo in hardcopy! If you have any comments or suggestions for the web site, send them to Rob at [admin@boealps.org](mailto:admin@boealps.org). The password (needed for activities and the member's roster sections) is still: SLESSE

From the desk of your editor,  
*Matt Robertson*  
Matt Robertson

**June Echo deadline is May 18<sup>th</sup>**

## May, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> May Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>4</b> New Moon General Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> BCC at Leavenworth; Mount Pilchuck hike
<b>7</b> BCC at Leavenworth	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> BCC in the Tatoosh
<b>14</b> Mother's Day BCC in the Tatoosh	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Basic Class Lecture at Gas Works Park	<b>18</b> Full Moon Echo deadline	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> BCC on the Nisqually Glacier
<b>21</b> BCC on the Nisqually Glacier; Mike and Doug's outing	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Basic Class Lecture	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Eric Bennett's outing
<b>28</b> Eric Bennett's outing	<b>29</b> Memorial Day	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Basic Class Lecture			

## June, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> General Meeting	<b>2</b> New Moon	<b>3</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance; Three Fingers climb
<b>4</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance; Three Fingers climb	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Basic Class Final Exam	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance
<b>11</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Flag Day Basic Class Graduation	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Full Moon North Cascades Highway bicycle ride
<b>18</b> Father's Day	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Echo deadline	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Tomyhoi climb
<b>25</b> Tomyhoi climb	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs • other

## Mount Pilchuck (5324')

May 6 or 7 (weather dependent)

This will be a conditioning hike for the Three Fingers climb in June, but others are welcome to join as well.

**Party Limit** 12  
**Route** Trail  
**Equipment** Standard day hike gear, trail will most likely still be under snow  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Don Fraser, 425-294-5424, donald.m.fraser@boeing.com, M/S 07-52

## Mike & Doug's Spring Outing Series

May 21

We'll plan on moderately technical climbs requiring roped travel. There will be a backup climb if conditions do not allow technical climbing.

**Mountain/Area** Condition Dependent  
**Elevation** Higher than home  
**Route** Condition Dependent  
**Class** 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>, possibly low 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Grade** I-II  
**Approximate Times** 5 am - 7 pm  
**Skills** Basic class graduation required  
**Number of People** 6  
**Contacts** Mike Bingle, (206)662-4929(w), (206)935-3992(h), michael.g.bingle@boeing.com

## Memorial Day outing

May 27-29

We'll probably extend this outing by a day or two, depending on people's schedules. Location and activity will depend on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Crag climbing at Smith Rock; Climbing Mt. Jefferson.

**Party Limit** 12  
**Experience** Basic class graduate  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbennett@hotmail.com

## Three Fingers Lookout (6854')

June 3-4

Camp overnight at Goat Flats, then climb to the south peak of Three Fingers the next day by ascending the three ladders to the lookout. Goat flats offers an outstanding position on the west edge of the Cascades, giving views south to the Seattle skyline and east to Everett, the San Juans, and Olympics. Three Fingers' location provides excellent views of the other peaks around the Mountain Loop Highway area

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Trail (probably under snow), grade I, class 2.  
**Equipment** Silverton Green Trails map; standard snow travel and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Don Fraser, 425-294-5424, donald.m.fraser@boeing.com, M/S 07-52

## On the Road: bicycling the North Cascades Highway

June 17

Training for the STP, just graduated from the Basic Class, or simply want to measure your mettle? Come join the fun and bike the 55 miles and 5000' total elevation gain (estimates) in one day, surrounded by the spectacular peaks of the North Cascades.

The plan is for one group to camp at Winthrop on Friday night, the other at Newhalem (or do an early Saturday morning drive, about 2.5 hours), departing each locale at 7am. The groups will swap car keys en route. The ride could take anywhere from four to eight hours, depending on your conditioning. This is just before the summer solstice, so there will be plenty of daylight if you are a slacker. If mechanical problems occur, one of the vehicles heading back can come rescue you and bring you a cold beer.

Note: There are NO facilities along this entire stretch (Diablo Dam/Ross Lake are possible but limited), so be prepared. Make sure your bike is in good condition, bring your 10 essentials (including plenty of food and water), and tools to fix a flat.

**Party Limit** None  
**Route** North Cascades Highway  
**Equipment** Bicycle in good working condition, no training wheels allowed  
**Experience** This shouldn't be your first 20+ mile day  
**Contact** Kathy Hasegawa (206)527-5281(home)  
Len Kannapell (206)522-7022 (home) or kannapell@yahoo.com

## Tomyhoi Peak (7451')

June 25-26

This climb has it all – a steep trail, granite bowls, mining relics, a short top of a glacier crossing, scrambling and views, views, views (assuming the weather cooperates)! Tomyhoi's position provides for fine views into the Fraser River valley in Canada to the north, of the Canadian and American Border peaks to the east, and of Mts. Baker and Shuksan to the south, along with much of the rest of the North Cascades. The plan is to hump overnight gear up to just under Yellow Aster Butte, then hopefully climb Tomyhoi the same day. The next morning will include time to do the easy hike up to the top of Yellow Aster Butte before breaking camp and heading back down.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Southeast route, grade I, class 3  
**Equipment** Standard snow travel and overnight gear – no ropes or other technical gear will be needed  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h)  
Note: I will only be organizing this climb, not actually going on it – I'll need someone to volunteer to be the actual trip leader.

## Fourth of July outing

July 1-4

We'll probably extend this outing by a day or two, depending on people's schedules. Location and activity will depend on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Alpine climbing in the Bugaboos; crag climbing in Skaha.

**Party Limit** 12  
**Experience** Basic class graduate  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbenett@hotmail.com

**Submit activities to**  
Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

**Submit activities to**  
Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

# Boealps June Campout

- Where:** Leavenworth (campground TBD)
- When:** June 23-25, 2000
- Who:** All club members, family, friends.
- What:** Rock Climbing, Hiking, Cycling, Bragging, Lounging.
- How:** Return the attached form by June 14th. Please bring a food item to share with the other members for the Saturday night potluck dinner.  
Last name begins with:  
**A-C** Side Dish  
**D-N** Main Dish  
**O-Z** Desert  
**Note: Due to budget cuts, Boealps will not supply food this year!**
- Rules:** A quiet sleeping area will be reserved for members who want an early bedtime. Please ask where it is before setting up your tent. Loud and wild behavior will be limited to just after 10pm. Please note that some people will stay up very late around the ol' campfire.

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## June Campout Response Form

(RSVP requested by June 17)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Potluck Dish: \_\_\_\_\_

Send response to: Ilan Angwin  
Mail: 110 NE 62nd St.  
Seattle, WA 98115

E-mail: iangwin@hotmail.com

## April Board Meeting Minutes

Boealps board meeting April 17, 2000

The meeting was held at Bill's house. In attendance were Bill Harrison, Norene Borg, Victor Yagi, Ian Angwin, Val Hagman.

Bill rang the official Khumbu bell to open the meeting at 7:20pm.

The following business was discussed:

### EDUCATION

There will be a crevasse rescue refresher course at Nisqually Glacier on May 20. This coincides with the Basic's class outing. Len Kannapell is the contact person.

There will be a rock leading seminar on June 25. Len Kannapell is the contact person.

### EQUIPMENT

There was a previous request for the club to purchase an avalung. The board decided against purchasing an avalung due to budget limitations and because the technology is not proven.

### CONSERVATION

The Basics class does trail maintenance every year, but Bill reminded us that all club members are welcome to participate. We'll advertise it in the Echo.

### PROGRAMS

Victor reported that the speakers that were lined up for the May club meeting have had to cancel. He is still looking for speakers for May and June. There was some discussion regarding possible speakers.

Norene reported that BEREC will be sponsoring an Open House on May 13 from 9:00am until 3:00pm at the Oxbow Activity Center in Seattle. If we wish to have a booth at the event we need volunteers to represent the club. We'll advertise for volunteers in the Echo.

### ACTIVITIES

Ilan reported that we're currently on a waiting list for two different campgrounds for our June Campout. There was some discussion regarding changing the date or location for the campout. Ilan is continuing to work on it.

Ilan reported that we have the Mountaineers Club reserved for the Annual Banquet. There was some discussion regarding dancing. Since there is room for dancing at the club we plan to go ahead with dancing. We need a volunteer to provide stereo equipment. Attendees can bring their own CD's marked with their favorite dance tunes. Norene volunteered to act as DJ, but needs another person to help out.

Ilan reported that there will be a Pizza Feed for activities in June. There will be an announcement in the Echo.

### OLD BUSINESS

Norene reported that Ed Alejandro and some others from the club will be attending the upcoming tax seminar for Boeing Recreation.

Bill reported that the club still needs to write a letter in support of naming a peak in honor of Jim Hinkhouse of OSAT. There was some discussion and Bill will look into it further.

Bill adjourned the meeting at 8:05pm

Val Hagman, substitute secretary



## **CONSERVATION CORNER**

By Troy Colyer

Sedro-Woolley - - The North Cascades National Park Service Complex is joining the Northwest Forest Pass program. Hikers using certain trails in North Cascades National Park and Ross Lake National Recreation Area will need to have either the daily or annual Northwest Forest Pass in order to park their vehicle. This pass replaces the U.S. Forest Service Trail Park Pass and other types of passes introduced over the last several years. The new vehicle pass is expected to be available at Forest Service and North Cascades National Park offices, visitor centers, and ranger stations in early May. It will also be available from certain stores, as the previous Trail Park Pass was. The pass will be required in the park once it is available. The one-day vehicle pass, good from midnight to midnight, will cost \$5. The annual vehicle pass will cost \$30. Annual passes are good for a year from the month of purchase.

Within the North Cascades National Park Service Complex, the Northwest Forest Pass will be required for parking anywhere along the Cascade River Road in the national park (the last 5 miles of the road) and its associated parking areas. It is also required for parking at U.S. Forest Service trailheads outside the park along that road. The new pass will also be required at these trailheads within Ross Lake National Recreation Area: Thornton Lakes Trail, Pyramid Lake Trail, Ross Dam Trail, East Bank/Panther Creek Trails. Trails further east along the North Cascades Highway are maintained by the Okanogan National Forest and require the same pass for trailhead parking. As a benefit of participating in this program, North Cascades National Park will also now be able to retain 80% of the fees collected in its campgrounds along the North Cascades Highway.

The Recreation Fee Demonstration Program has brought almost \$500,000 to the North Cascades National Park Service Complex in the last two years. On April 5, a new relief map of Lake Chelan and vicinity was installed at Field's Point, one of the numerous projects for which the fees have paid. In addition, these funds will: rehabilitate heavily impacted wilderness campsites, such as those at Thornton Lakes, along Copper Ridge, on Sourdough Mountain and at Juanita Lake; convert a portion of Newhalem Creek Campground into a group camp and a picnic area; rehabilitate the popular and heavily impacted lakeshore campsites at Colonial Creek Campground and improve their accessibility; replace the deteriorated Brush Creek trail bridge and repair sections of the Big Beaver Trail.

The North Cascades is one of the few national parks with no entrance fee.

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## **Programs**

By Victor Yagi

### **May General Meeting Program:**

Tom Stewart will be presenting a slide show covering his 1972 alpine style climb of Denali via the Patterson route. Socializing and refreshments start at 7:00, and Tom's show will start at 7:30 at the Oxbow Recreation Center on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Two more shows have been planned, but not scheduled: "Scenes from Antarctica", and "Experiences of Doctors in the Developing World". Watch this space for more details, and send in your suggestions for programs, or volunteer to do a mini-show by contacting Victor.

Victor: 425-477-4812 or yagwan@yahoo.com

## Education and Seminars

By Len Kannapell

### Crevasse Rescue Refresher – Nisqually Glacier

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

Whether you just took the Basic Class last year, or do a lot of head scratching when it comes to crevasse rescue ("Let's see, uh, I think you're supposed to..."), this seminar is for you. We'll review the basics of crevasse rescue (assume three on a rope with one victim) and make the practice as real as possible, with an emphasis on safety. Everyone will get a chance to set up a Z-pulley and practice prussiking up the rope.

We'll meet at the Paradise Ranger Station, ready to leave the parking lot at 7 am. The Basic Class will be on the Nisqually the same day, but we will work as a separate group. The Basic Class will also be there on Sunday, and could use your newly refreshed skills – if you would be willing to help out, contact Basic Class Head Instructor Shawn Pare.

Equipment: (standard glacier gear):

- Ice axe with leash
- Picket
- Texas prussiks
- Harness
- Helmet
- Crampons
- Slings and 'biners

There will be no climbing fee charged for being on the Nisqually glacier. Contact me if you are interested in instructing, too.

Len Kannapell, (206)522-7022(h), kannapell@yahoo.com

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## Mountaineer Clubs

excerpted from "Last Mountains: The Story of the Cascades"

by Robert and Victoria Case, ©1945

Many good-natured witticisms have been aimed at the inveterate mountain climber: the odd biped who never rides when he can walk, who never walks on the level when he can walk uphill, whose fetish is to take the longest, hardest, most dangerous way around – preferably in foul weather – to reach a given point.

He has a Jekyll and Hyde personality. For days on end he goes quietly about his business, pays his taxes, speaks kindly to his children, praises his wife's cooking, and helps old ladies across crowded intersections. He snores peacefully in his chair of evenings, during the fireside chat, and rouses at command to help Junior with his algebra. In a word, he is a normal, substantial Pillar of Society.

But come week end, he hurries home with a maniac gleam kindling in his eye and dives into his basement. When he emerges he has reverted to type. He is shambling, granite-jawed, his teeth clenched on an evil-smelling pipe. He drags strange gear behind him, which he tosses into his car. His wife – long since resigned, thankful only that the neighbors don't know and the insurance is paid up – stands shrinking on the side lines, holding the children close. "Yes, dears, that's your daddy. But remember him as he was, my precious lambs. Not – like this."

He disregards them; the trivialities of life are already forgotten. Other hairy-eared primates have joined him. They mutter, heads together, facing towards the mountains. One gestures to the southwest, another west; they compromise on the northwest, leap into the car, and are gone. Soon they are baying hopeful in the thinning timber; and presently, at long last, high up in the screaming crags, they revel in an orgy of chilblains, aching joints, freezing flesh, and deathly weariness – all the matchless and exquisite tortures that have haunted their dreams during the workaday week.

## Joshua Tree

-- by Annette Mockli

Four and a half days in the land of beige granite, cacti, sunshine and silver Dodge rent-a-cars is merely a tease. Next year I vow to devote more time to the art of desert cracks. There are two paramount requirements for Joshua Tree I've found out: tape and cams! I was dreaming on the plane to Ontario, CA of bolted face routes. JTree is trad and tough!

During my whirlwind stay, I managed to wrap my head around some leads, enjoy some difficult (for me anyway) top ropes, and work through some multi-pitch fun in the sun! There is so much to choose from it's merely cherry picking for the starred routes! I can easily understand why folks spend months at a time down there and never climb anything twice.

Anyway it started Saturday night, March 11<sup>th</sup>. After landing in the brand new Ontario airport a little after midnight and driving 2 ½ hours (which included a catnap)--a breakfast at the Joshua Tree Denny's was actually appetizing. We (Andrew, Suzi, Tom and myself) then headed for the grocery store, filled up all the water jugs at the climbers supply shop and headed into the park to find a campsite.

We ended up in Ryan Campground (later to relocate to Hidden Valley Campground) and started eyeballing routes from the picnic table!

We picked the Hall of Horrors area just off Sheep Pass Road for starters. We found a 5.4 warm up, which led to some anchors for a 5.10a TR. One thing I noticed immediately was the sparse bolting (if any!) and the serious ground-fall potential on most of the routes. Eventually we took a break to nap, gaze around at the intense blue sky, count the Joshua Trees and dry out from March in Seattle! We ended that first day on South Horror Rock. The route was a 5.7 wandering hand crack called Lazy Days. We took turns on it, found the serious decent route and strolled back to camp. Much to my delight I found I was traveling with some pretty darn good cooks! I quickly put my Nutra-Grain bars away and dove into a plate of steaming spaghetti! This trip was gonna be great!

And so it went. Monday we wandered over to the Rock Garden in the Lost Horse area. We could see the area from the parking area, but getting to it took some intuitive scrambling and a couple hints from hidden voices somewhere up above. Once there, we found ourselves staring at an entire wall of starred routes: Two 5.7's, four 5.9's and a 5.10c. I think we all grinned at the same time. We started with Double Dogleg 5.7, moved to Rock Candy 5.9, did Smitereens 5.9 hand crack, and TR'd the hard thing-- ending with a promise to come back to this spot the next day... (I actually never made it back to this spot, but it's on my list for next year's trip!)

With all this company, I had been shirking the sharp end of the rope. But after Lost Horse I felt ready. Two of us headed for Echo Rock that evening so I could test out my lead head. I picked a mellow 5.6 called Double Dip. It had a few bolts and some solid cam placements. I steadied my nerves on it and felt enthused for the next day!

Back at camp we soaked up the sunset and planned the next day.

With some useful beta swapping from neighbors we headed up Dapple Mare on Tuesday. It's a 5.8 multi-pitch route on Lost Horse Wall. We ended up parking the car in Hidden Valley Campground to hold a coveted spot for that night so we approached the route from The Real Hidden Valley. The approach turned out to be a beautiful 1 ½ mile walk through a sandy wash. I love the desert and this walk enabled me to really feel the atmosphere of JTree. As I walked I looked around at the seemingly fragile existence of the desert plant life. It was so quiet and peaceful I just wanted to stand still for hours and drink it all in. But on to climbing!

We easily recognized Lost Horse Wall. It was a huge piece of granite and there were several people already on it. But by the time we racked up and stashed our packs it was our turn! Andrew lead the first pitch which was really a scramble up a ramp with an exposed traverse to the start of the real climbing. So now I was up. After a little pep talk from Andrew, I started up the 150-foot pitch. I found myself trying to remember how to efficiently climb cracks! I managed to get some solid gear in and even did some successful jams. After a bit, I had a rhythm going and started moving a little faster. It turned out to be a blast! Andrew did the next

pitch, which started with a 25-foot sloping flared hand crack traverse. Then it went up to a diagonal hand crack, followed by a long face traverse! Eeek! I'm glad I led the pitch I did. He did such a great job I told him he could lead the crux pitch as well. It was a protruding lip with a crack down the center and a small alcove below it. Andrew cruised it with excellent jams and belayed me from the top. With the comfort of a top belay I enjoyed every bit of the crux and we both basked in the sun at the top with the glow of a successful climb on our faces.

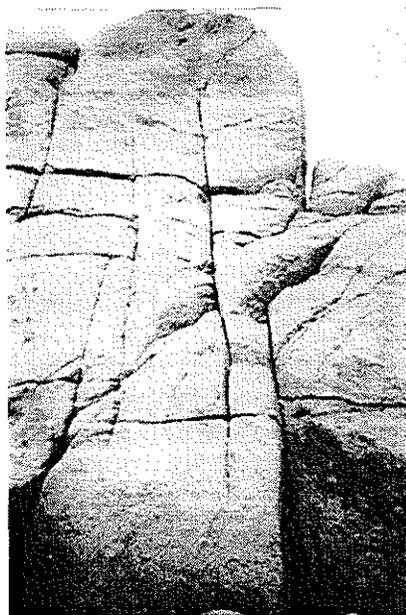
I'd thought I'd top off a perfect day with a 7 mile run through the desert. Again the warm, peaceful atmosphere was edifying. The others picked me up at a pre-determined rendezvous spot and we headed into Yucca Valley for showers and dinner.

The Sands hotel in Yucca Valley has hot water for \$4. So ignoring the orange carpet, the maroon bedspread and the plastic framed landscape pictures, I hopped in the shower gratefully! Afterwards we ate at Edchada's—basically good, cheap Mexican food that hits the spot! While we stuffed ourselves we planned for Wednesday.

Wednesday -- my last day. Better make it good! I picked my lead. Sail Away. 5.8 crack in The Real Hidden Valley. We walked over and I geared up and paused to listen to another pep talk. I peered up at approximately 120 ft of crack with no obvious face holds to bail to. I took a deep breath and started up. The route starts at the left diagonal crack, goes straight up and then you make the reach across the top. I got the rhythm going, stepped up the level of focus and even managed to sink a small nut in the top section before reaching across and up to the anchors. It felt like a good, solid climb! A definite high point and great way to end my short stay!

A few more interesting facts: about 630,000 acres of JTree have been designated as wilderness. I think the total amount of acreage is 800,000+! It's immense! There are two desert settings in Joshua. I think it's the Colorado Desert and the Mojave Desert that come together (should of kept the info pamphlets!)—so you get the high desert where the Joshua Trees grow and then below 3,000 ft you see the cholla cactus of the Colorado Desert. The Joshua Trees are supposedly related to the lily family, believe it or not. I guess they reproduce in similar ways. It seems pretty fragile but one gets the feeling that things are patiently waiting to spring into action once the sun goes down or rain actually falls. Also we saw lots of coyotes, lizards, and hawks (no snakes, thank goodness!). Golden Eagles are also supposed to like it here as well, but I never spotted any.

Overall, it was a treat for the body and the soul. I plan to make Joshua Tree an annual event!  
<http://www.joshua.tree.national-park.com/>



Sail Away

## Mailbox Peak

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2000

by Don Fraser

My only perception of Mailbox Peak was either from I-90, just east of North Bend, or of a wall of snow coming off the summit from last year's review, so I decided it was time to go check it out for myself. Now my perception is "steep". This trail is a workout from bottom to top and will test your knees.

The trailhead is off the middle fork of the Snoqualomие River, off exit 34 from I-90, and just past where Dorothy Road and Middle Fork Road come back together again about 2.5 miles from I-90. The trailhead is unmarked but the parking area is pretty easy to find. Take the left logging road up the hill. You'll pass two other logging roads branching off to the left before coming to an unmarked trail on the left. If you cross the stream you've gone too far.

The nicest parts of this trail are the very beginning through low lying forest next to a stream; and the two upper snow slopes where I got a spectacular view of the north side of Mt Rainier. Everything in between is a pretty steady climb through undistinguished forest; nothing really to get bearings on or orient yourself to.

The fairly deep snow for the last three-quarters of a mile or so was well packed. Although slippery in spots I never had to put on snowshoes and felt the avalanche hazard was minimal. There was a tree line to follow on the left if there had been much new snow on the first slope; the last leg up to the summit is open and fairly steep but the trail follows the ridge. I was using ski poles and didn't feel in danger of falling. There were also some nice glissade paths down these two slopes.

Ranger Mike lists the mileage as 3.5 one way (for some reason a review in the P-I listed it as 12 miles round trip which is way too far), with a 4070 foot elevation gain. Summit is at 4841'. My round trip time was six hours with about a half-hour lunch stop. I was taking it easy on my legs and carrying a 25-lb. pack. My two hiking partners, Rudy and Ollie, were constantly waiting for me but they were pretty worn out also by the time we got back down. We were the first ones up, leaving about 8 am, and passed about six other people on the way down.

There is a new mailbox on top. Apparently someone removed the old one around last September. The folks who installed the new one would like to get back the contents of the old one if anyone has a line on where it might be.

In summary, this is a great conditioning hike, but save it for a clear day.

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## Trail Maintenance Opportunities

The Washington Trails Association continues to offer you many opportunities to get your 2000 Trail Park Permit by volunteering for just two days of trail maintenance. For their complete schedule, including their increasingly popular week-long work parties, visit their web site at <http://www.wta.org>, or give them a call at 206-517-7032 or toll free at 800-587-7032. The month of May will be chock full of trails to work on – if you see one you use regularly, volunteer to help keep it in shape! Here's a few of the work parties that have been scheduled:

- Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>: McClellan Butte
- Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>: West Fork Foss, Old Sauk or Pratt LAke
- Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>: Denny Creek, Skookum Flats or Cougar Mountain
- Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>: Denny Creek
- Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>: Squak Mountain, Lake Serene, Siouxson Creek or Lake 22
- Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>: Siouxson Creek, Granite Mountain, Skookum Flats or Lake 22
- Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>: Dorothy Lake, Heather Lake, Talapus Lake or Cougar Mountain
- Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup>: Denny Creek or Skookum Flats
- Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>: Lake 22
- Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>: Denny Creek, Blanca Lake or Lake 22
- Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>: Denny Creek, Lake 22 or Cougar Mountain

## Seattle to Seattle in One Calendar Day With Rainier in the Middle

Climbers: Twins—Scott and Greg Drum

Date: Monday, April 10

Route: Gibraltar Ledges; grade I-II

Route Conditions: fair to moderate. The “ledges” were melting away with much drip-water and volcanic rock pebbles/debris cascading down from above; freezing level near 12,000 feet, causing the snow to be mostly wet and sticky during the ascent from Paradise to the top of Gib Rock at 12,600 feet; above Gib Rock, the glacier was hard and easily negotiated.

Weather: high cirrus clouds, blue sky, little wind and 40 to 60 degree temps.

“Greg?” I spoke into the phone as I pondered whether it was truly him or an imposter in his Sandpoint, Idaho rented house near the base of Schweitzer ski area.

“Yeah, it’s me you dork! What do you want? I’m just on my way to work,” he stated.

“That’s nice! Now listen up. Bring your climbing harness, glacier boots, ice axe, crampons and climbing outer-ware this weekend when you visit,” I said, and anticipated his next response.

“Why? Do you want to climb something?”

“Sure, I thought we could climb Rainier in a day. Say.....on Monday or something,” and quickly added, “come on, you gotta’ do it with me. Just bring your gear, Ok!”

“All right, all right,” breathed Greg and added, “I just want to relax this weekend. You know, get away from Sandpoint for a bit and maybe hang out in a Seattle coffee shop, sipping a double latte.”

“You’re nuts! It’s gonna’ be a great weekend, so just bring your climbing gear!”

“Will do. See ya’ later, bye!”

“Bye.”

As I hung up the phone, I glanced again at the clock sitting on my wooden dresser. It read 7:30 this evening of Thursday, April 6. I didn’t envy Greg’s late night work schedule as one of Sandpoint’s finest, a police officer, but I knew he thoroughly enjoyed his line of employment. What could be better than cavorting in a labyrinth of city streets late at night, pulling over weaving vehicles traveling the wrong way on a way street and detoxing the locals.

The next few days came to pass without much further thought regarding Rainier in a day. Greg arrived late Saturday (4/8) afternoon, at which time he and I took off for a six mile run around Woodland Park and Green Lake. Still groggy from a five and a half hour drive and minimal morning sleep after his night shift in Sandpoint, Greg mentioned feeling a bit tired, but happy to be in Seattle for some rest and relaxation.

“I thought we could do some snow hiking tomorrow around Snoqualmie Pass,” I windfully expressed in between regular gulps of air. “What do you think?”

“Think about what?” stated Greg. “I just want to sleep in on Sunday. It doesn’t matter what we do after that, I’m game for most anything.”

“Alright, sounds good. I could use the rest too.”

The next day, after our anticipated morning sleep-in session, which lasted to the late hour of 8:00 am, Greg, Stacy (my wife) and I were off to the pass. Parking in a designated no parking area near some condos at the base of Guye Peak, we romped around the south couloir of Guye. After assessing for avalanche conditions, we continued up to where the couloir narrowed, noticed a few, huge, half-pipe like streaks heading down the slope from far above, apparently from falling boulders, we reasoned, and retreated hurriedly back to the car.

Once back in Seattle, Greg and I laced up our running shoes and headed out for a five miler. Then it hit me, a thought that told me to conserve energy for the ascent of Rainier tomorrow.

“So, what’s your opinion on climbing Rainier tomorrow, bro?” I queried.

“I don’t know, I still feel like relaxing.”

“Yeah, me too, now that I think about it. I’ll check the weather forecast after we eat tonight. Then we can decide.”

“Ok. I wouldn’t mind climbing, but we’ll see,” breathed Greg, as we continued our ascent back to the top of Phinney ridge, and Stacy’s and my apartment.

Later, during dinner at Dukes’ Chowder House near Green Lake, Greg and I forked and spooned in huge plates of pasta, bread, salad and salmon chowder bread bowls. With pangs of satiation coursing through

our digestive system, Greg and I bantered back and forth about the next day's proposed ascent of Rainier in day, while Stacy observed and listened with much amusement. The one major deterrent preventing us from whole heartedly accepting our climbing desire was that we'd have to get up early, like at 5:00 AM to leave Seattle by 5:30 AM for Paradise. Geez, we both just wanted to relax!

Cranking the tunes and speeding along semi-empty streets at 5:30, Greg and I had accepted our deepest, acute desire and now headed full bore for Paradise in the wee morning hours. Rainier's weather forecast that I'd checked a mere seven hours before had read: sun, freezing level near 9000 feet, go climb idiot - or something like that.

Leaving Seattle on I-5 was no problem and soon we were weaving our way to Eatonville, through Elbe and under the welcome sign to Rainier National Park. Screeching to a halt beside the monotonous blinking of a red stop light guarding the park entrance, I pondered blowing by the lonely self-pay machine under the annoying red flash, asking for a \$10 entrance fee. Instead I robotically fed the machine its damn money, accepted the receipt and sped off at 25 mph over the park speed limit, all the way to Paradise.

Driving past the huge, grounded space saucer posing as a Visitor Center, Greg and I coasted into a very deserted Paradise parking lot. Only a bright yellow Nissan extended cab Frontier interrupted our perfect view of Rainier and the Gib Ledges.

"Let's get going man!" I heard my voice echo around the deserted parking lot, and flung open the Subaru's hatch back, spilling two packs on the ground. Then I tore open the Thule rocket box and soon the pavement around the packs was littered with ice axes and ski poles. Almost frantically we stuffed additional food into our packs, strapped on gaiters, rubbed in sun block lotion and fussed over whether or not to begin the slog up to Muir in short sleeved shirts.

Glancing up at a parked government 4 x 4 vehicle near the Paradise Ranger Hut, I realized we had to register. A figure dressed in Park Ranger clothing began walking toward Greg and me.

"Hey Mike, I don't know if you remember me, but I talked with you at the latest Boealps Banquet, where you gave a talk and later you sent me your book for the Boealps Library" I stated, glad to see Mike Gauthier, the quintessential Rainier Climbing Ranger and new author of a Rainier climbing guidebook.

"Sure, I remember your name, but now I have a face to go with it," expressed Mike. "I'll remember you for sure now that I've seen you on the mountain. Are you guys planning to climb?"

"Yeah. We're thinking of the Gib Ledges route," I said.

"It's in good condition. I was just up there yesterday. The only bad thing was that it was so darn hot and the snow very soft up to around 12,000 feet or higher," offered Mike. "I summited in a thin, long sleeved shirt, similar to the one you're wearing. Do you guys plan to camp at Muir?"

"Well, no," I cautiously stated, "we're planning to climb up and down today."

"I like that sort of climbing," encouraged Mike, "it's good to see people out here doing that. But I would have started climbing six hours ago!"

"I know, I know," I nodded, and glanced at my watch—8:30 AM! "Well, the weather forecast calls for sunny skies and a freezing level around 9000 feet, so we'll get up to Muir and assess from there."

"Alright, sounds good," stated the Mike as he glanced at our scattered gear. "By the way, what do you have in your packs, they look awfully large and heavy for a day climb!"

"Extras, such as a sleeping bag, bivy sack and Greg's gonna' bring a stove and fuel, just in case."

"Nah, you guys don't need that for a day ascent. I always go super light, leaving behind those kinds of things. The only difference is that I turn around if the weather appears the slightest bit 'iffy, but when you're carrying extra gear, you might continue on."

"Well, we plan to turn around anyway if the weather doesn't look good or if we don't feel up to the challenge."

"Good! I've gotta' be going. Good luck to you," said Mike and he drove off toward Longmire.

I looked at Greg and he at me. We both shrugged our shoulders and began flinging unwanted gear back into the Subaru. I now shouldered only a down jacket, wind proof climbing bibs, a rope, harness, a few biners, webbing, helmet, three water bottles, a shovel and food. Greg's shoulders held similar gear, minus the rope but plus a picket. Stripped to short sleeved shirts and thin polyester leggings, Greg's and my boots left the pavement and began crunching snow. The time and elevation read 8:41 AM and 5500 feet, respectively.

About an hour later, the altimeter read 7600 feet as we plodded toward a string of eight climbers with RMI, a Rainier climbing guide service, written all over their pace.

"Howdy," Greg and I both said in unison in the direction of the panting line walkers and continued our concentrated march toward Muir. The day thus far was windless and getting warmer the higher we bounded. The sky remained perfectly blue and the snow mostly hard and crusty.

"Come on Greg," I shouted, "we have to keep moving if we're gonna' make it."

Already I felt the desperation in our pace and doubt began to leak from my conscience mind, like a river overcoming a natural damn. I didn't want to think about turning around!

"I need to take a break," reminded Greg, dispersing, for a moment, the doubt that bobbed up and down in my throbbing head.

"Ok, let's keep going to those rocks up there," I commanded and pointed toward an area near Anvil Rock, "and then we'll rest, but just for a bit. If we're gonna' make it we have to keep moving!"

Not waiting for an answer, I raced upward. The rock pile I'd pointed to never got any closer. I looked over my shoulder at Greg, with head bowed and mind focused on the hard, physical effort of each breath and each step upward. I turned forward once again, trained my vision toward the flat spot that is Muir and increased my pace. Finally, I traversed around a corner of the rock pile and decided to climb up a bit more. Again I glanced over my shoulder and saw Greg several hundred feet below me, seated comfortably on his pack, sipping water and observing the bulk of Mt. Adams off in the refracted distance. Mt. St. Helens was also visible. I stopped, sighed, grabbed my water bottle and waited for Greg. I realized I might be pushing the pace too far, and most of all didn't want to send the wrong message to Greg. After all, we were supposed to be relaxing.

About 10 to 15 minutes later Greg stood beside me.

"Did you see that I took a break back there," he quizzed me. I knew he must be feeling the cumulative effects of sleep deprivation, internal time clock changes and overtraining from his weekly running mileage of 50 plus miles/week.

"Yup, I saw ya'," I said, "how are you feeling?"

"Not too bad. A little tired, but I can keep going."

"Excellent! Muir is just up there," and I pointed.

Simultaneously we adjusted our respective pack straps and settled into our familiar positions—me in the lead and Greg a few boot steps behind matching my cadence print for boot print.

"We can take a short break once we reach Muir, strap on our harnesses and helmets, rope up and keep going," I instructed, glancing back at Greg, who nodded in muted agreement.

About half an hour later, soaked in sweat and in great need of hydration, we unbuckled our packs and watched them plummet to the now wet and slushy snow, which blanketed the encampment of Camp Muir. I glanced at my wrist altimeter: 11:10 AM and roughly 10,200 feet! No signs of life registered at the moment. Muir appeared deserted.

Studying the local terrain, I located Cadaver Gap and then the Beehive. Next I visually traced our intended ascent route, confirming a slight boot path that hugged the East side of Cowlitz Cleaver, but still traveling up the sun-drenched Cowlitz Glacier. Further up I squinted at the notch beside the Southwest shoulder of bulky Gibraltar Rock.

"There!" I shouted and swung my arm up high with an index finger extended, "is the notch and beyond lurk the ledges and the steepest part of the route, Gib chute." Not much for words at the moment, Greg nodded and began gulping more water. I did the same and tried to eat a few cheese and sausage slices. I knew that Greg's thoughts overlapped perfectly with mine—to climb or not?

Instead of discussing our intentions, Greg and I began to methodically strap on our harnesses, crampons and helmets, without spoken words or knowing glances. We just knew what the next move would be—ascend to the notch and have a look.

When we initially reached Muir, I had noticed an old, scarred blue ice axe resting on the snow next to some ratty appearing slings and a dug-in fluke. Although the first inch of snow was soft, the underlying layer was strikingly hard, especially on top of the wind scoured drift we now stood upon. Therefore, the purposefully imbedded fluke seemed comically surreal, especially since it was wedged inside an angled, dug out trench in hard snow at the top of a sharp, 15-foot drop-off about 20 feet from where we stood observing it.

Just then, a young kid with long, curly hair, a baseball cap and mirror glacier goggles walked from the solar toilet and over to the suspiciously placed fluke and his axe.

"How's it going? I was just about to take that axe for my own," I joked. "Anybody else up here?"

"Nope, I'm the only one," stated the boy.

"Where ya' from?"

"Ohio."

"What brings you up here?" I asked.

"Well, I've done some climbing in Ecuador on the volcanoes, but I came up here to get better acquainted with this," said the kid as he jabbed at the air with his axe in the direction of Rainier's ice capped summit. "I haven't had much experience with this type of terrain, especially avalanche danger. The peaks in Ecuador are all walks up without the need to assess snow conditions. But I've been as high as 19,000 feet."

"How long have you been here at Muir," I wondered.

"A few days. In about a month I'm trying out to be an RMI guide. I just graduated from high school last year and since coming here to the Northwest, I may never go back."

"Well, don't you think a picket would work better in snow like this," I blurted out and changed the subject.

"I suppose," said the boy, "but I dug it in really good and now it's bomber!"

I stared at the fluke a moment longer, thought "no it's not," and began to flake out my orange 8.5 mm rope. Greg looked better since drinking more fluid and not moving for 15-minutes. I observed him cinching up his harness and organizing his remaining gear. We both ditched the ski poles in a small depression near a huge boulder, to be picked up later. I organized my remaining gear into my black, Gregory Gravity pack. Greg threw on his borrowed (from me) Arc'teryx Bora 30, tied into one end of the rope with a re-woven figure eight knot and watched while I flaked out about 40 feet of rope between the two of us and tied in with a butterfly knot. The remaining rope I collected into a mountaineer's coil and threw it over my neck and one shoulder, but not before I'd fitted my pack across my back. I furtively glanced at my watch—11:45 AM.

The kid was still playing with his fluke and runners as I started up the Cowlitz Glacier, following along the cleaver. The boy had not appeared too impressed when we told him we were going for the summit. The only information he gave us proved to be truthful soon enough—"be careful of the slushy snow balling up on your crampons -- you'll have to whack them constantly."

Looking over my shoulder at Greg, still standing atop the drift next to the boy and his fluke, I heard Greg utter, so the kid would hear him, "high ho, high ho, it's off to work we go!" Then Greg turned his back to the boy and jumped half way down the steep drift's slope, landed on his crampon points and sauntered after me. I knew Greg must have been feeling a bit better, especially since he seemed to be in such a cheery mood. Glancing back at the kid, all I remember is him standing in the same spot atop the drift, ice axe in one hand and a dangling sling in the other, with a look of utter curiosity spread across his face as he observed our progress.

We gained altitude rapidly and the slope quickly steepened. I felt strong and assumed Greg did too, since the rope between us never seemed to go taut. After some time, the notch still appeared allusive. I'd forgotten about the deceptive Cowlitz Glacier further up, as it continued to steepen and present us with several false plateaus. Damn, I thought, I'm really getting tired and it's really hot out here.

The faint boot path provided us with a small bit of navigational comfort and slightly better purchase upon the softening glacier. Still, we were constantly and carefully balancing upon one leg at a time to whack our crampons free of sticky snow with well intentioned blows of our axes. Every few minutes we had to pause to whack away!

Finally, we reached the notch area and were greeted with the sounds of faintly falling water and clanking pebbles. My altimeter read 11,700 feet. I didn't look at time, although Greg and I had agreed our turn-around moment would be roughly 4:00 PM.

We decided to unrope after discussing the finer details of not being able to set protection along the dubiously melting snow ledges. Also, we both agreed that while roped if one fell we'd both end up as meat waffles on the Nisqually Glacier to the West of the ledges. Our mantra became: "take your time and relax; be sure of each step and plant that ice axe!"

Greg eagerly followed me across the first portion of the ledges. I carried the rope in my pack and we left our harnesses on. "If we're gonna' make it, we have to keep moving," I stated the now familiar directive.

The snow along the ledges was by now very soft and each step warranted caution. Unexpectedly, while traversing too close to the Gib Rock wall, a carefully placed boot and crampon would poke into a snow hollow, throwing us momentarily off balance as we stood up to our knee in the hole. Soon, we realized that it was best to trample across fallen rock debris scattered across the snow, which helped shield the snow from the sun's softening rays.

"I don't like this at all," hissed Greg, "I'm not looking forward to coming back through here."

"It won't be too bad if we just take our time. Remember to follow atop some of the rock debris, and when you traverse icy sections, plant your crampons firmly."

Slowly we weaved our way further along the snow ledges, oblivious to the burning sun but well aware of where we wanted to be—off the ledges!

Towering beside our flimsy perch along Gib Rock was the ominous Nisqually icefall. When pulling into the Paradise parking lot around 8:00 AM, Greg had heard a huge, crashing noise, which, while distracted, I had thought was a passing jet. However, unequivocal visual evidence portrayed the noise as a huge ice avalanche billowing skyward and outward across the upper Nisqually Glacier, just below the Gib Ledges.

Wiping falling ice chucks from my thoughts, I continued around a final corner and began the steep ascent up Gib chute. Greg followed cautiously behind, not enjoying the soft snow conditions one bit and still unsure if he wanted to return across the ledges, let alone continue up the chute.

Once atop the plateau near the zenith of Gib Rock, I camped out on a few, flat volcanic rocks. Quickly I unpacked and then uncoiled the 40 feet of rope between the figure eight and butterfly knots and laid the tidy mountaineers coil nearby. Greg knew what I was thinking, but I wasn't sure what he thought.

"Shall we," I stated and nodded toward the last 1800 feet to Rainier's summit. My altimeter read 12,600 feet.

"We have to go up that!" exclaimed Greg, who later told me that climbing the chute moments before had really spooked him.

"Go up what? This is the fun, easy slogging part. The summit is just over the first big hump you see up there. Besides, you'll be kicking yourself—hard—if you don't go for it now. And the weather is great and the snow now firm," I pleaded.

While discussing our intended line of progress, the wind began to kick up, so we both pulled out wind-jackets and covered our soggy polyester layers. The temp felt cooler, near 30-degrees, but the sun still beamed incessantly overhead with no ominous cloud formations evident.

I proceeded to again flake out the 40 rope feet that would separate Greg and me, shouldered my pack and then the tidy mountaineers coil. Greg tied into his end, hoisted his pack onto his shoulders and drank more water. I tied back into the rope with the butterfly knot and began the slog upward, still following faint crampon tracks although the route was clear and at this point, variable.

"How are you doing?" I stalwartly asked Greg about 30, quiet minutes later "we just have to keep moving!"

"I'm good," he said and I knew he was right, since we were keeping pace with one another and the rope remained flaccid between us.

From the rocky Gib saddle, the route had remained a bit flat for a few minutes, but soon steepened to about 30 to 35 degrees, forcing our bodies to work harder against the ubiquitous pull of gravity. My legs felt ok for the most part, as did my digestive system. I hadn't eaten much all day and instead occupied break time drinking Gatorade. All of a sudden I felt a faint jerk on the rope, stopped and peered back down at Greg.

"What's the matter," I asked.

"You said this was the summit or at least the crater rim when you pointed to this area from down there!"

"Yeah, you're right. I forgot about these false summit areas. Remember, we can do this! We're strong and the weather's great and we certainly don't want to say we could've, should've." My altimeter read a maddening 13,400 feet—still a thousand feet from the top!

I turned and pointed to the next highest point on Rainier above us. "That's the crater rim," and I truly believed this because there were rocks up there, which normally line the rim.

Half an hour later we crested the final rise, but a sick feeling tightened inside my gut as I realized we were still about 25 minutes from the true crater rim, the place where I now stood another false summit! Damn, damn, I thought. I won't say anything to Greg, I'll just keep moving.

A short time later I felt a sharp, forceful tug at my waist. It was Greg, again signaling me to a halt.

"Now what do you have to say for yourself?! This isn't the summit either! I'm tired! Let's go down!!" he smirked.

"What!! You're joking, right?"

"Yeah.....sure, let's get up this thing!" and he laughed a good laugh.

"Alright! That up there for sure is the crater rim," I reasoned and pointed, having no doubt we were going to make it. My altimeter read 13,900 feet.

I felt no further tugs on the rope as we almost sprinted the last distance to the rocky rim, where I flung off my pack and laid upon it, exhausted, but very satisfied. "I don't care if we choose not to walk across the crater to Columbia Crest, the true summit," I said matter of factly.

Now it was Greg's turn to lecture and motivate. "What?! I didn't haul my ass all the way up here to not stand upon the true summit, let's go bro!"



Greg

I didn't argue and totally agreed with him. My watch read 3:53 PM with an altitude of 14,200 feet. At 4:03 PM we stood atop the highest point in Washington with no need to glance at the altimeter. A stout, icy wind whipped its cold mass across Columbia Crest. It was late in the day, so we snapped a few summit photos, looked around a bit and bolted back to our packs. Laconically we drank more water, secured our packs, tied in and took a moment's more pause.



Scott

"Well, we did it!" I exclaimed and gave Greg another big hug, similar to the one on the summit minutes before. I really felt happy. I knew Greg did too, although he admitted to being a bit more tired than I. Once we started downward, though, I knew he'd perk up and we'd move fast.

"Let's go!" I said, glancing at the time—4:17 PM—and began bounding down the East slope towards the top of Gib rock. The rope remained slack on my harness and even began piling up past my feet. I smiled and picked up the pace. Seventeen minutes and 1600 feet later we stood atop Gib chute. The snow became very soft and the chute appeared steeper than I remembered. Greg mentioned something about "not liking the looks of this," and we remained roped, a mutual agreement. Once down the slope and on the snow ledges again, we'd unrope, I reasoned.

The descent down the slope was torturous and appeared more dangerous next to the hulking ice fall. We heard constant creaking and groaning sounds emanating from the thick blue ice, occasionally pausing to stare at huge, calving chunks clanking to their new home atop the Nisqually glacier a few thousand feet below. The icefall posed no danger along our route, but magnified the dubious quality of each footstep sinking into the slick, wet snow. This was plunge stepping at its steep best!

As our progress slowed and our concerted descent effort quadrupled in intensity, the lateness of the day reverberated all around us. Constant water trickled down the sides of Gib rock's West face, sprinkling perpetual rock debris onto the slushy snow. Although larger boulders never fell across our path, evidence of their unpredictable presence lay scattered all around. Our traverse back across the evaporating ledges remained stimulating and methodical. Finally the notch came into view, reached by one last interesting traverse following the "U" shaped contour of Gib rock's Southwest corner.

Sitting atop a small, snowy plateau beyond rockfall range, we breathed again with ease as the adrenaline levels receded and our parasympathetic nervous system calmed our beating hearts. Muir was clearly visible and surprisingly active with little bodies mulling all around. We wondered if the climbers were peering our way.

Slowly I pulled out the 8.5 mm rope, which had been removed and packed at the base of the chute. While tying in, I glanced around our stance atop Cowlitz Cleaver and down across the Cowlitz Glacier. I then noticed that the entire descent path was in shadow. Ahhh, we're in luck, I thought, the snow may be

firmer and less sticky with less chance of it balling up on our crampons. The altimeter read about 11,700 feet.

Twenty minutes later Greg and I stood triumphantly at Camp Muir. My watch read 6:03 PM.

"I thought that was you guys," said a nearby climber who had been a part of the RMI pace line, "you two flew by us earlier this morning and that was a pretty quick descent just now! How was the route?"

"Not too bad," I replied. "The ledges are melting away, and should probably only be traversed in the dark or early in the morning when it's cooler and firmer. We sure got lucky, though -- the last 1400 feet to here with the glacier in shadows prevented the snow from balling up too badly."

A few other climbers asked us more questions and in particular wanted to know if today's ascent and descent was our fastest to date. "Yes, it was," we replied in unison and resumed packing discarded gear. Anxious to be moving toward the car and a beer, we grabbed our stashed ski poles and packed the axes. We stripped off our wind jackets, secured them inside our packs and took one last glance around. Then we were moving again down the familiar Muir snowfield, alive with the fading sun's glow. My watch read 6:30 PM.

"Scott, did you see our little Ohio friend? I saw him coming out of the solar toilet again," Greg laughed. "He didn't seem all that anxious or interested in talking with us."

"I know. Remember he mentioned staying tonight at Muir and then going down tomorrow for food and coming back up? Well, just as we were leaving, I overheard him asking around if anyone had room on their rope team for an extra climber. I think he thought we were a couple of crazed lunatics!"

"Yeah, we sure look it too," Greg smiled.

The rest of the descent was uneventful. We stopped a few times to readjust our packs and snap a few parting shots. The snow wasn't bad either. Each step was more or less predictable and even soothing as each boot sank a few inches into the accepting snowfield, helping to dissipate unwanted stress upon our groaning quad muscles.

At exactly 7:41 PM, 11-hours later, our boots scraped against the dark, dirty pavement of the Paradise parking lot. The Subaru still stood as a solitary vehicle, silhouetted by the quickly retreating sun. The yellow Frontier was gone. Gear and packs were aimlessly flung into the car and rocket box. Wet, dirty polyester layers were peeled off and replaced with the refreshing feel of dry cotton.

As I revved up the engine, cranked some tunes and took one last look at the mountain, I heard "So, now can we just relax."



An unusual sight – sunset (not sunrise!) below Camp Muir on Mt. Rainier

## **Mt. Damavand in Winter: Jan, 2000**

It was at Mt. Everest Base Camp that Sadegh Aghajani first suggested that I come to Iran to do some mountain climbing. At that time I knew Sadegh as the leader of the Iranian Everest Team. Later, I would discover that he was also the President of the Mountaineering Federation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. My first reaction to Sadegh's formal invitation to be a member of an international winter ascent of Mt. Damavand was similar to the reaction of many of my friends and relatives: Would it be safe for me to travel to Iran? "Oh yes, of course it is safe" Sadegh told me when our two teams were on Everest in 1998, "A lot of tourists are coming to Iran now..." Yes, that may be true I thought, but I'm an American. .. My lingering concerns evaporated rapidly as I got to know the Iranian people.

The climb of Mt. Damavand, Iran's highest mountain at 18605 feet (5671 meters), was to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Ayatollah Khomeini. Although there is a new religious leader in Iran as well as a president who appears to be dedicated to reforms, Khomeini's presence is felt throughout the country. His portrait is hanging in every business establishment and huge murals of him are painted on many of the large buildings in Tehran. The Islamic revolution, which the Ayatollah Khomeini heralded, is frequently talked about by the locals.

The Mountaineering Federation of Iran is partially subsidized by its government. They are a very organized and active group who treated us, the foreign climbers, like visiting dignitaries. I have traveled around the world climbing mountains and I have never been treated as well as I was by this group and the Iranian people.

Pasqualie Scaturro from Colorado and I were the two Americans invited on this winter climb. Also accepting invitations were one climber each from Scotland and Singapore, two each from the Ukraine and Kazakstan and five climbers from Turkey. Invited climbers from France and Pakistan were unable to make it due to illness. The meeting of the 13 international climbers in Tehran was a bit of a reunion. Pasqualie is well known to me from the four previous Himalayan expeditions we've done together. Muhammad Rozani from Singapore was on Everest in 98 and Nasuh Maruki, one of the Turks, had been on neighboring Lhotse at the same time. The others included a professional climbing guide (Alexey Raspopov) from Kazakstan and a 57 year-old former Soviet climbing champion (Victor Gryshchenko) from Ukraine. The fellow living in Scotland, originally from Northern Ireland, (Brian McDermott) is a neighbor and best friend of climbing legend Hammish McInnis. It was a wonderful story fest each time we all sat down together.

On our first full day in Iran, we all went on an acclimatization hike in the Palangchall range bordering the northern suburbs on Tehran. I really was amazed at how close these mountains are to this capital city. It was Friday, the Islamic holy day, and the trail was full of hikers having a good time. We encountered literally thousands of people en route to the shelter at 2500 meters. To me it appeared to be the one place where the sexes could really mix it up and have a good time together. Elsewhere there is a real separation of men and women. On the public buses women sit in the back while men sit in the front and at sporting events there is separate seating for women. I understand that men and women even ski on separate slopes at the local ski areas. On the trail however there was lots of laughter as well as picnics in the snow and no separation of the sexes. At the shelter everyone huddled in together for snacks and tea.

On our second full day in town, we were escorted out to the Holy Shrine of Emam Khomeini. Within lie the remains of the former religious and political leader. Although still partially under construction this shrine is one of the more amazing Islamic buildings in modern history. The foreign climbers, along with about 150 members of Iran's Mountaineering Federation, slowly marched into the building flanked by a long row of guards standing on either side of us. When Brian saw that he was marching into the shrine next to Pasqualie and me he whispered to us, "Aye, there's no way I'm going to be walking in here next to the Americans!" And he jokingly and rapidly changed position. His wit was a constant source of entertainment for the rest of the trip. Within this shrine is another monument of sorts underneath a very high dome containing beautiful stained glass. As we got to this monument everyone gathered around to peek through the gaps in the brickwork at the closed casket of "The Great Ayatollah". As I looked at the multitude of Iranians surrounding this inner shrine I could see that many of them had their handkerchiefs out wiping away tears...

Later in the day we were off for the opening ceremonies at a sports complex. Inside this basketball arena, an area at center court was roped off. Within this area a lot of the memorabilia and supplies from the 98 Iranian Everest Expedition were on display. A military band played the Iranian National Anthem while the flag of Iran along with a large portrait of Ayatollah were raised. Across from us hung the flags representing the nations of all the climbers: Turkey, US, Ukraine, Iran, Singapore, Scotland and Kazakstan. Before the ceremony got started the local media interviewed each team. Then there was speech after speech by this dignitary and that, music and more speeches, a comedian and then the grand finale: All the climbers took a lap around the perimeter of the court to a resounding standing ovation by the small but enthusiastic crowd. I just shook my head in amazement as I thought, "This must be in a small way something like what it feels to be in the Olympics." At the end of the ceremony we all lined up for photos.

I was told that the successful ascent of Everest by the Iranian team was a very important event in Iran. In fact all the children's school books have a picture of the Ayatollah Khomeini right inside the front cover followed by another of Hassan Nagarin, one of the four Iranian team members to make the summit of Everest in 1998. It is truly the golden age of mountaineering in Iran and it was actually fun being a part of it. The excitement there is similar to the excitement in both Britain and the United States after teams from their nations made their first ascents of Mt. Everest. Later when we were climbing with a large contingent of Iranian climbers it was reminiscent of old photos I've seen of large parties climbing the volcanoes in Washington State.

I had been shocked when I was originally told that about 150 Iranian climbers would be joining us for our climb of Mt. Damavand. I knew before leaving the States that we were going to be splitting up and climbing four different routes of varying difficulty on the mountain. My assumption that we would be splitting into four smaller groups couldn't have been further from the truth. When I got to Iran and was told that just about every member of the Mountaineering Federation would be taking part in the climb I was astonished. I remember voicing concern to Pasqualie that with that many climbers on the mountain something would be sure to go wrong with someone. He just shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Well, with that many people on the mountain there will be a lot of people to help out if anything does go wrong."

Wake up call the next day was at 5:00 AM with a departure for Mt. Damavand set for 6:00 AM. After our typical breakfast of nan (bread) and boiled eggs we were bused to the Mountaineering Federation where in the pre dawn hours over 160 climbers tried to figure out which bus to go on. There did seem to be a bit of organization but it appeared to be more of an organized chaos. Each climber had been assigned one of four routes and had to find the right bus for their route. Pasqualie and I would be climbing on the West Ridge with the two Kazaks. The two Ukrainians would be on NE Ridge; Brian from Scotland would be on the N Face with two Turks, and the three other Turks would be on the south side with Muhammad from Singapore. Somewhat surprising to us was that six female Iranian climbers would be among the large group on the southern route.

We were told that it is not unusual for Tehran to have half a meter of snow on the ground in the winter. The past couple of years however had been very dry and thus far this season only about 10% of normal precipitation had fallen. Nonetheless the snowline was right at the northern edge of Tehran. As we made our way down from the mountain pass separating the Alborz range from the city, we had our first really good view of Mt Damavand. I got our driver to stop so I could get a photograph and immediately felt my nostrils freeze as I stepped out into the cold morning air. The local media jumped out of another vehicle and filmed me as I took my photos.

We eventually wound our way up a small icy snow covered road to a military outpost. Here we were stopped by a gate and after some negotiation for passage, everyone got off and started to unload the bus. This would be our starting point. The Iranians got out their banners and flags and a camera crew filmed our departure. We definitely had the longest approach and likely the hardest route on the mountain of the four routes chosen. As a result we had the smallest number of Iranians climbing with us: only 29. It was still a large number of climbers but our numbers would soon prove to be very beneficial. After an hour of walking on the snow-covered road we cut off heading up the hillside adjacent to us. Progress slowed greatly as we were soon plowing through knee deep to waist deep snow. The leaders would break trail for a few hundred meters before giving way to those who followed. We all took our turn in the soft unconsolidated fluff although there were a few workhorses who kept the rest of us content by doing

more than their fair share. In the deeper waist deep areas two guys would trudge ahead breaking trail without their packs.

As we got over the initial hillside, views of the mountain opened up although the views were foreshortened as we were now on the lower slopes. Pasqualie and I kept trying to pick out and speculate as to our route above only to have the Iranians make repeated hand gestures to indicate that we had yet another ridge to traverse over before getting to the West Ridge. We would all stop for hot drinks and snacks at the end of every steep section. Going over several small ridges entailed a lot of up and down. I was glad to see that the Iranians were cautious when it came to avalanche danger. We all really spread out in one particularly suspect area.

Late in the day we set up camp on a nice broad ridge. The weather was holding but it remained cold and got colder by the minute as the sun inched down toward the horizon. Our views west toward the rest of the Alborz range was really beginning to open up. I had been surprised to discover that there are over 100 peaks in Iran over 4000 meters (over 13000 feet) in height with over 70 of them being in the Alborz range. As we cooked inside the tent Pasqualie said, "Jeez, this is colder than Everest." I had to keep reminding him that not only were we quite a ways north of Everest but it was winter as well. . . He'd brought his leather boots and was sorely missing his expedition plastics.

The next morning I rose early to get photos at first light of the multitude of peaks to the west. I did so in my boot liners and had trouble warming my feet afterwards. Our destination for the day was the Stanley Hut at 4200 meters. The plan from there was to take a rest day or, if we were feeling good, to ascend 500 meters or so and return as acclimatization jaunt. The day consisted of an angling traverse in deep snow over a couple more ridges to the hut. It was a long day and we got in just after sunset.

During the evening hours Ali Reza, one of the few Iranians with us that could speak a little bit of English, told us that bad weather was coming perhaps as early as noon the next day. We would have to make our summit bid without the planned rest or acclimatization day. He had been talking to others at the base of the mountain via a Motorola Radio. The new plan was to rise at 4:00 AM and leave at 5. I was already concerned about going from my home at sea level to over 18,600 feet in fairly short duration. Now we had even less time. I had secretly hoped to get stormed in after the first day in order to let my body adjust. With nearly 5000 vertical feet above us I was now fairly certain that some of us would suffer from altitude problems.

The hut we were in is a fairly large two story rock structure but with thirty-three of us inside, the accommodations were quite cramped. It took us all a while getting settled, cooking dinner and preparing for the following day. It was almost 11:00 PM by the time the clamor ended. I was just getting into a good dream when I was startled awake by a lot of yelling and moaning. It was 2:30 in the morning! I shook Pasqualie and said, "Hey man, I think someone is sick." Never being the least bit reserved Pasqualie, was soon yelling, "What's going on, what's going on?" "We're leaving now!" came the reply. What do they mean they're leaving now? I was still groggy. Was someone sick? Are they going down? Could this be the end of our climb? Pasqualie was yelling " What do you mean we're leaving? A muffled voice yelled back, "We're going to the summit!" Hey, it's only 2:30! The only response was, "Time changed! Time changed!" Pasqualie and I just looked at each other and began packing up. I grappled with my headlamp and the inside of my pack as I searched for my aspirin. Now that I was awake I could feel an altitude headache wrapping it's way around the back of my head. After swigging down the pills and thinking about my situation, I broke open my medical kit as well and popped a dexamethasone. Dexamethasone is a fairly powerful steroid that helps decrease cerebral swelling.

It was very cold out but beautifully clear with a brilliant moon just over half full. No one turned on their headlamps at all until we reached the rocky rib of the west ridge. Here the unrelenting winds hit and I really had to work to keep my hands warm alternately balling up one hand or the other. The short ski poles I was carrying were pretty worthless as we scrambled over the snow-covered rock. The snow was light and sugary and fortunately there was little ice on the rock. It was simply too cold for any melt and freeze action. The deep snow of the previous two days was gone, as there was very little accumulation on the upper part of the wind blown volcano. About 3000 feet of our route consisted of class 2 and 3 scrambling with occasional harder moves. Not everyone had left the hut and our party dwindled the higher we got. Both Pasqualie and I were getting a bit frustrated with the fact that our party seemed to stop and rest at every level spot. We were getting too chilled to stop. Not too long after it got light, we noticed that

the Kazaks were way ahead of our group. Upon repeatedly hearing Pasqualie moan and groan during the rest breaks, we were motioned ahead as well.

As we put some distance between us and the Iranians, my stomach began to bother me and I searched for a place to relieve myself. It wasn't an easy task! By the time I was done I realized that I would never catch Pasqualie. The summit crater didn't seem too far away yet it would take a supreme effort in the unabated wind to push on. The Iranians weren't far behind now so I waited for them to pass. I brought up the rear as I again tried to warm up my hands. It was now too cold for any of us to stop at all except for occasional breathers in the thinning atmosphere. I was now content to hang with those at the end of the line as I was really beginning to feel the altitude. About fifteen of us remained in this group. The rocky rib gave way to icy snow slopes and the route wound through some cliffbands ahead.

Shortly after leaving the rib, I looked up to see Pasqualie coming down at me. I was quite surprised. He said, "Man, I'm going down! I have no feeling left in my feet!" I'm leaving for Ama Dablam in two months" he said, "I simply can't risk losing that trip." I nodded in acknowledgment and continued. Soon Alexey and Sergey from Kasakistan were yelling over to me from an adjacent gully. They'd tagged the summit crater and in the face of gale force winds, made a quick U-turn. "Do you need a down jacket?" One of them yelled. "I have one in my pack", I yelled back. As long as I kept moving I was fine but I did have to stop and put some chemical hand warmers in my mitts. It made a difference but I still had to keep balling my hands around the warmers to fend off the chill. As we worked our way around the cliff bands the summit crater looked even closer and I was getting anxious for it to end. I simply wanted to point myself downhill so I could move more rapidly and warm myself up. The unrelenting wind blowing continuously now at 40 miles an hour was barely tolerable.

As I finally made the crest of the summit crater, the putrid and overwhelming odor of sulfur made me cringe. My already somewhat nauseated stomach made attempts to jump out of my throat. As I stumbled the 60 to 70 feet down to the crater's bottom, I finally was able to experience my first pleasure of the day. Blocked by the crater's rim, the wind died to a pleasant breeze and my body began to thaw. After a walk around the inside of the crater, I was actually warm enough to change the film in my camera and begin to take some photos. I was amazed by the bright yellow rocks exposed along the rim of the summit crater. It was brilliantly clear and sunny and the Alborz range was incredible. One of the Iranians tapped me on my shoulder and pointed to a spot along the center rim twenty feet away. Embedded in the rock and ice were the corpses of half a dozen goats. What the hell were they doing there? It took me so much by surprise that I jumped back startled, much to the amusement of those around me.

On the descent, I had much more time to enjoy myself. The wind let up some and it seemed warmer. As the sun moved west the light on the range ahead of me accented the mountains beautifully. I could actually enjoy the rest breaks. We made the trip down in fairly rapid order as a large lenticular cloud formed over the summit. Back at the hut full bearded Iranian men, via kisses on each cheek, congratulated me. The next day the weather had really closed in, making our route a challenge as well. Intermittent whiteout conditions and snowfall along with much discussion and correction to the route we were taking was the order of the day.

Back at the Mountaineering Federation in Tehran, we were each told that we had made the first winter ascent of Mt Damavand by our respective countries. It was fun comparing stories with the other international climbers as we were later escorted to museums and mosques and taken to the beautiful Persian city of Esfahan. I did interviews with the Asian French Press, with a Japanese film crew and with the Mountaineering Federation of Iran. A common question was "What was it like for an American to climb in Iran?" My response was, "Just because our governments sometimes have disagreements, it does not mean that we as climbers and as that we as people cannot get along and work well together towards common goals. Iran is a fascinating place to visit and is certainly a place I would feel comfortable traveling to again."

Don Beavon  
14721 47<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
Lynnwood, WA 98037-1845  
(425) 745-2157  
E-mail: PeakJunkie@aol.com

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO BETH SUNDQUIST, M/S 39-PU  
OR: 7021 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Seattle, WA 98117  
OR: beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com

**NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY**

ALPINE ECHO



**May ECHO staff**

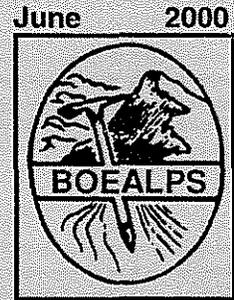
Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: Don Beavon, Don Fraser  
Annette Mockli, Scott Drum

***Thanks to everyone who submitted an activity or trip report! I can always use more contributions. If you have any submissions - anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do - email them to me at matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices will work, give me a call at (425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!***

# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07



## BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY

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			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: Lobuche Peak, Nepal by Shawn Paré

From Beth Sundquist 39-PU

## June General Meeting

Boealper Dave Creeden will present a slide show of his trip along the Inca Trail in Peru to Machu Picchu, through the rain forests of the Tambopata Nature Reserve, past Inca ruins, and into the Cordillera Blanca. Also, see and hear his eye witness account of the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in Equador, tour the public markets in Otavalo, and see the wonders of the Galapagos Islands.

**Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting at 7:30 pm**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **Social Corner...**

### **New BoBaby...**

Congratulations to Rob and Cathy James on the birth of their son, Ian Michael James! Ian was born at 9:30 pm on May 14<sup>th</sup> (what a wonderful Mother's Day present!), and checked in at 8lb 10oz and 21 inches long. I'm sure Rob will be updating his web page at [http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/rob\\_james/](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/rob_james/) fairly frequently if you'd like to see more pictures of the new sprog!



Ian Michael James

### **and newly betrothed...**

Congratulations go to Mark Hicks and Katy Rusho for (finally!) getting engaged! Many of us have been expecting it for a while – I guess it just took Mark a while to build up the courage! Much scarier stuff than all those routes he's climbed and guided – best wishes to both of you!

## **Membership Chair Position Open...**

Beth Sundquist has been doing a fabulous job as membership chair, but she is leaving on an extended trip starting in mid-July and would like to pass the responsibilities on to someone else. Those responsibilities are:

1. Distribute club information to prospective members.
2. Receive membership applications and update membership information in the BOEALPS member database.
3. Generate Echo mailing lists each month by the Echo deadline, and at other times as needed.
  - The in-plant list is saved to a file and put on the Boeing copy center's FTP server.
  - US Mail labels are printed and sent to the Echo Editor.
4. Print out the Club Roster twice a year for publication in the April and October Echo.
5. Email the membership database to the Boealps webmaster every month.
6. Register Basic Class students.

If you'd like to get more involved with the club (are you listening, Basic Class students?), this would be an excellent opportunity! Contact Beth at 425-266-1437 or [beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com](mailto:beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com) for more info on the position, or our esteemed president, Bill Harrison, at 206-662-2487 or [william.l.harrison@boeing.com](mailto:william.l.harrison@boeing.com) if you'd like to help out.

## **Western Washington Scrambles Web Site...**

Fellow Boeing employee (but non-Boealper) Mike Garrison has started a cool web site focusing on the best scrambles in the Cascades and Olympics. What's a scramble? Well, it's more than a hike, but less than a climb. Usually you don't need a rope for a scramble (which makes the definition a bit hard to pin down since some folks can climb things without a rope that others would feel the need for a rope), but there isn't a trail all the way to the top, at least not by the route you're doing. Check out his web site at [http://wac.icomm.ca/routes/scrambles\\_guide/](http://wac.icomm.ca/routes/scrambles_guide/) for some great non-technical trip ideas, and to submit some of your favorite routes to his database. It's still in the early stages, so submissions are very welcome!

## **Boealps Web Site...**

Our web site is still alive and well at <http://www.boealps.org> – Rob may be a bit preoccupied with his newest sprog for a bit, but you can count on him to keep the site mostly up to date with info on club activities and climbing trips. If you get your Echo through the U.S. mail, and never seem to get it until the day before our general meeting, browse on over to the website's front page around the last week of any month to see who the featured speaker is going to be. Rob gets all the new Echo info as soon as I send it to the print shop, so the web site will always have the latest and greatest before you get a chance to see your Echo in hardcopy! If you have any comments or suggestions for the web site, send them to Rob at [admin@boealps.org](mailto:admin@boealps.org). The password (needed for activities and the member's roster sections) is still: SLESSE (spell it right, Eric!)

From the desk of your editor,

Matt Robertson

**July Echo deadline is June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

## June, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> General Meeting	<b>2</b> New Moon	<b>3</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance; Three Fingers climb
<b>4</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance; Three Fingers climb	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Basic Class Final Exam	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance
<b>11</b> BCC graduation climb and trail maintenance	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Flag Day Basic Class Graduation	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Full Moon North Cascades Highway bicycle ride
<b>18</b> Father's Day	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> BAG-IT – pizza for activites	<b>22</b> Echo deadline	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> June campout
<b>25</b> Jump campout; Rock Leading seminar	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

## July, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> New Moon Canada Day Eric's outing; Mt. Adams
<b>2</b> Eric's outing; Mt. Adams	<b>3</b> Eric's outing; Mt. Adams	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of July</b> Eric's outing	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> General meeting and Photo competition	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Tomyhoi climb
<b>16</b> Full Moon Tomyhoi climb	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Echo deadline	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs • other

## Memorial Day outing

May 27-29

We'll probably extend this outing by a day or two, depending on people's schedules. Location and activity will depend on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Crag climbing at Smith Rock; Climbing Mt. Jefferson.

**Party Limit** 12

**Experience** Basic class graduate

**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbennett@hotmail.com

## Three Fingers Lookout (6854')

June 3-4

Camp overnight at Goat Flats, then climb to the south peak of Three Fingers the next day by ascending the three ladders to the lookout. Goat flats offers an outstanding position on the west edge of the Cascades, giving views south to the Seattle skyline and east to Everett, the San Juans, and Olympics. Three Fingers' location provides excellent views of the other peaks around the Mountain Loop Highway area

**Party Limit** 8

**Route** Trail (probably under snow), grade I, class 2.

**Equipment** Silverton Green Trails map; standard snow travel and overnight gear

**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent

**Contact** Don Fraser, 425-294-5424, donald.m.fraser@boeing.com, M/S 07-52

## On the Road: bicycling the North Cascades Highway

June 17

Training for the STP, just graduated from the Basic Class, or simply want to measure your mettle? Come join the fun and bike the 55 miles and 5000' total elevation gain (estimates) in one day, surrounded by the spectacular peaks of the North Cascades.

The plan is for one group to camp at Winthrop on Friday night, the other at Newhalem (or do an early Saturday morning drive, about 2.5 hours), departing each locale at 7am. The groups will swap car keys en route. The ride could take anywhere from four to eight hours, depending on your conditioning. This is just before the summer solstice, so there will be plenty of daylight if you are a slacker. If mechanical problems occur, one of the vehicles heading back can come rescue you and bring you a cold beer.

Note: There are NO facilities along this entire stretch (Diablo Dam/Ross Lake are possible but limited), so be prepared. Make sure your bike is in good condition, bring your 10 essentials (including plenty of food and water), and tools to fix a flat.

**Party Limit** None

**Route** North Cascades Highway

**Equipment** Bicycle in good working condition, no training wheels allowed

**Experience** This shouldn't be your first 20+ mile day

**Contact** Kathy Hasegawa (206)527-5281(home)  
Len Kannapell (206)522-7022 (home) or kannapell@yahoo.com

## **Tomyhoi Peak (7451')**

**(Note new dates) July 15-16**

This climb has it all – a steep trail, granite bowls, mining relics, a short top of a glacier crossing, scrambling and views, views, views (assuming the weather cooperates)! Tomyhoi's position provides for fine views into the Fraser River valley in Canada to the north, of the Canadian and American Border peaks to the east, and of Mts. Baker and Shuksan to the south. The plan is to hump overnight gear up to just under Yellow Aster Butte, then hopefully climb Tomyhoi the same day. The next morning will include time to do the easy hike up to the top of Yellow Aster Butte before breaking camp and heading back down.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Southeast route, Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard snow travel and overnight gear – no ropes or other technical gear will be needed  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h)  
Note: I will only be organizing this climb, not actually going on it – I'll need someone to volunteer to be the actual trip leader. There will be a trip planning session on the evening of July 12.

## **Mt. Adams via the North Ridge (12,276')**

**July 1-3**

Climb the second highest peak in Washington by a lonely, but non-technical, route. The plan will be to put in an easy first day by taking the Killen Creek trail up to camp at about 7000 feet. Sunday will be a long day, climbing to the summit via the north ridge and returning to base camp. This route does not cross any glaciers, so harnesses and other relevant gear can be left home (expect steep snow and bring appropriate gear for that). Monday will be another short day, which will allow for getting on the roads before the 3 day weekend traffic builds too badly.

**Party Limit** 12  
**Route** North Ridge, Grade II, Class 2  
**Equipment** Standard snow travel gear – ice axes, crampons, helmets.  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h)  
Note: I will only be organizing this climb, not actually going on it – I'll need someone to volunteer to be the actual trip leader. There will be a trip planning session on the evening of June 28.

## **Fourth of July outing**

**July 1-4**

We'll probably extend this outing by a day or two, depending on people's schedules. Location and activity will depend on weather and interest. Top two ideas: Alpine climbing in the Bugaboos; crag climbing in Skaha.

**Party Limit** 12  
**Experience** Basic class graduate  
**Contact** Eric Bennett, (206)579-5016, erbennett@hotmail.com

## **Pacific Crest Trail through the North Cascades**

**Aug. 26-Sept. 4**

Hike the incredibly beautiful northern portion of the Pacific Crest trail from Rainy Pass to its end in Manning Park in Canada. A dropoff at Rainy Pass will be arranged, and we'll catch the Greyhound Bus back from Manning Park. There are several class 2 and class 3 peaks and high alpine meadows to hike through – the actual length of the trip will depend on whether or not the group wants to spend some time scrambling peaks.

**Party Limit** 6  
**Route** Pacific Crest Trail, Rainy Pass to Manning Park in Canada  
**Equipment** Standard backpacking gear plus climbing gear if peaks are to be attempted  
**Experience** Backpacker for hiking portion, basic class grad for climbs  
**Contact** Janet Oliver, 425 413-0298, oliverj2@att.net

**Submit activities to: Ilan Angwin**  
**206-729-0640**  
**iangwin@hotmail.com**

## Boealps June Campout

- Where:** Leavenworth (campground TBD)
- When:** June 23-25, 2000
- Who:** All club members, family, friends.
- What:** Rock Climbing, Hiking, Cycling, Bragging, Lounging.
- How:** Return the attached form by June 14th. Please bring a food item to share with the other members for the Saturday night potluck dinner.  
Last name begins with:  
**A-C** Side Dish  
**D-N** Main Dish  
**O-Z** Desert  
**Note: Due to budget cuts, Boealps will not supply food this year!**
- Rules:** A quiet sleeping area will be reserved for members who want an early bedtime. Please ask where it is before setting up your tent. Loud and wild behavior will be limited to just after 10pm. Please note that some people will stay up very late around the ol' campfire.

---

### June Campout Response Form

(RSVP requested by June 17)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Potluck Dish: \_\_\_\_\_

Send response to: Ilan Angwin  
Mail: 110 NE 62nd St.,  
Seattle, WA 98115

E-mail: iangwin@hotmail.com

# ***Boealps Activity Submittal Form***

*Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!*

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
              (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

## **Submit activities to**

Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

## Education and Seminars

By Len Kannapell

### **Rock Leading Seminar – Leavenworth**

**Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

Ilan Angwin and Brian Tryba, our estimable Basic Class instructors, are heading up this seminar, which takes place at the Boealps June campout in Leavenworth. This is targeted toward the just-graduated Basic Class students and any club member interested in learning how to lead natural-protection ("gear") routes. We'll cover types of rock pro, gear placement, racking gear, setting up anchors, and belay commands.

The goal is to have each student lead one EASY pitch to go through the mechanics of leading, with another student belaying. Ideally, we'll have a 2:1 student to instructor ratio.

Make sure you have a trail pass permit displayed on your car if you park at Snow Creek or you will probably be fined. We'll shuttle people to Mountaineers' Dome as necessary, as parking is limited. Call or e-mail so we know how many students we have and how many instructors we'll need.

Where to meet: Snow Creek parking lot, Icicle Creek Road

When to meet: 7 am, 6/25/00

Limit: 12 students

Contacts: Ilan Angwin (206)729-0640 h.  
iangwin@hotmail.com

Brian Tryba (425)255-5365 h.  
rockmobster@hotmail.com

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### **BAG-IT Night**

**Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

BAG-IT = Basic Grad Intermediate Training. This is very similar to the Pizza-for-Activities Feed but we all hate that name.

Here's the idea: You bring an activity to put in the monthly ECHO, and Boealps buys the pizza. The goal is to help the recent Basic Class grads gain more experience now that they are out of the class. This helps fill the void between the Basic Class and the Intermediate Climbing Class (ICC).

\*Basic Class grads, this is a great opportunity to meet other club members and get some experience for the ICC for 2001 or the following year. If you don't know what activity to lead, show up anyway and we'll help you brainstorm some ideas.

\*ICC instructors, submit one outing (you can pair up with another instructor as well) to lead a climb targeting these Basic Class grads.

\*Club members, help us out by submitting an activity!

The activities don't have to be difficult climbs, and they don't have to be limited to climbs: one-day hikes, canoeing, bicycling, roller-blading, and house-cleaning are also fair game.

Where: Round Table Pizza, 5111 25th Ave NE (by University Village)

When: 7 -9 pm, 6/21/00

Contact: Ilan Angwin (206)729-0640 h.  
iangwin@hotmail.com



## **CONSERVATION CORNER**

By Troy Colyer

### **Future of Garbage and Recycling Outlined in Plan**

King County Executive Ron Sims introduced the draft 2000 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, a guide on how the county will manage garbage and recycling services for the next two decades. During the past year, King County staff have met with elected leaders and solid waste staff in cities throughout the county, representatives from private solid waste management companies, the County's Solid Waste Advisory Committee and citizens. Many of the recommendations in the draft plan are based on input from local government leaders and citizens who use the county's solid waste system.

Key recommendations include:

- Expanding waste reduction and recycling programs, especially for organic materials, which make up a substantial portion of what is thrown away.
- Using the County's regional landfill near Maple Valley until it reaches its permitted capacity in 2012 and then begin sending King County's garbage to an out-of-county landfill.

Public review and comment on the plan are encouraged. The county will hold five public meetings to obtain feedback on the Draft Plan as part of the public review process. The meetings will be in Issaquah May 31, Shoreline June 5, Federal Way June 7, Bellevue June 12 and Renton on June 15. All meetings will be held from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

The draft plan is now available on the King County Web site at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/> and available at King County Library branches. Public comments on the draft plan will be accepted through July 31, 2000. After the public review and comment period, the county will revise the plan based on the comments received. A final plan is scheduled for release in December 2000 for adoption.

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## **Programs**

By Victor Yagi

### **June General Meeting Program:**

Follow Boealper Dave Creeden to Peru on the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, through the rain forests of the Tambopata Nature Reserve, past Inca ruins, and into the Cordillera Blanca. Also, see and hear his eye witness account of the eruption of the Tungurahua volcano in Equador, tour the public markets in Otavalo, and see the wonders of the Galapagos Islands. Socializing and refreshments start at 7:00, and Tom's show will start at 7:30 at the Oxbow Recreation Center on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Coming on July 6<sup>th</sup> will be the annual photo contest. There will be lots of good prizes. Get your photos ready. All you basic class students get your photos ready to submit to the basic class photo category.

August 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the annual picnic at Marymoor Park in Redmond. Save the day to join friends and family for an evening at the climbing rock or an excursion over to the velodrome.

Victor: 425-477-4812 or [yagwan@yahoo.com](mailto:yagwan@yahoo.com)

## **THE BOEALPS ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST**

### **July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2000**

Start rounding up your slides and prints - the Boealps Annual Photo Contest will be held at the July general meeting!

Prizes will be given out for the categories listed below with the exception of the Echo Cover category. First place winning slides and prints will be displayed in the Alpine Echo (with permission of the photographer). The top four placing slides and/or prints in the Echo Cover category will get placed on the Echo cover for three months each over the course of the next year.

#### Categories

Mountain Scenes  
Climbing  
Nature Scenes  
People  
Sunsets & Sunrise  
Boealps Climbing Class  
Most Embarrassing  
Echo Cover\*

For each category, there will be two sets of prizes, one for prints and one for slides.

(\*except for the Echo Cover, which will be a combined category. All entries in this category must have high contrast and a horizontal orientation - vertical orientations will not fit on the cover.)

#### How to enter:

Show up at 6:30 pm if you plan on entering any slides or prints.

Entry forms will be provided at the meeting.

Your name should appear on each entry. (For slides, write on the frame; for prints, attach a note to the back.)

Each person may have a maximum of 2 entries per category.

#### Rules:

- Do not enter photos that have won in previous years (The Echo cover category is not subject to this rule).
- You must be the actual photographer of your entry.
- All entries must be of club interest.

Any final arbitration rests with the club photography chair whose decision is final.

## **An Historic Opportunity to Save Our Forests – Once They're Gone, They're Gone Forever**

**By Victor Yagi**

We have before us a historic opportunity to shape the future of our forests. Last year, President Clinton announced a proposal to begin a process to determine how to better manage the National Forest roadless areas. During the last six months over 200 public meetings were held to get input on the proposal. The Forest Service (<http://www.fs.fed.us> or <http://roadless.fs.fed.us>) just released the draft environmental impact statement proposing restrictions on road building in the roadless areas. It does not restrict destructive activities such as logging, mining, or off-road vehicle use. Over the next 50 days, the Forest Service will be taking public comments on the proposal. We have a chance to influence the final policy and, by showing broad support, prevent special interests from getting political support to oppose the policy. An unnamed Washington Senator (with first initial S); the timber industry; anti-environmental interests; and some ORV users have started a misinformation campaign to try and derail the proposed wild forests protection plan. They will no doubt be very vocal during the upcoming public comment period. Anyone who feels like the forests deserve to be preserved should take a few minutes to fill out a comment card and, if possible, attend the public hearing in Seattle. We have a chance to preserve over 3 million acres of forest in Washington State. Don't let this opportunity pass.

The Washington Wilderness Coalition (WWC) (<http://www.wawild.org>) is spearheading a campaign to collect signatures on comment cards that will be sent to the Forest Service. The comment cards ask that the policy be guided by the following principals: ban not just building roads, but also restrict logging and other destructive activities; eliminate exemptions for some forests, including the Tongass National Forest in Alaska; include roadless areas of 1000 acres or more instead of the current 5000 acre minimum; and base the policy on sound science not politics.

There are so many compelling reasons for protecting our forests that I can't begin to list them all. I will just give a couple of facts and point you to resources for more information. Did you know that:

- The Forest Service loses money on the sale of timber? In 1997 alone, the timber sales program lost \$88 million. We are subsidizing the destruction of our forests!
- There are already 25,000 miles of roads in Washington's National Forest?

### **A call to Action**

- **Fill out a comment card** - I will bring cards to the next Boealps meeting, or you can email me at [victor.r.yagi@boeing.com](mailto:victor.r.yagi@boeing.com) and I will send you a comment card to sign. You do not have to be a registered voter to sign a comment card.
- **Get more people to fill out comment cards** - We want to show overwhelming support for this policy. Contact me or WWC for more info.
- **Attend a public hearing** – Wed, June 28 from 1:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Seattle Center, Olympic Room. I will organize a group to attend the hearing.
- **Send a letter or call you Senators or Representative –**

Senator Patti Murray  
2988 Jackson Federal Building  
915 Second Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98174  
206 553-5545

Senator Slade Gorton  
10900 NE Fourth #2100  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
425 451-0103

- **Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper.**

Contact me for more information –

Victor Yagi, [victor.r.yagi@boeing.com](mailto:victor.r.yagi@boeing.com), work 206-662-2162, home 206-528-2819

## Trail Review of Mt Pilchuck (AKA Chutes and Ladders)

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2000

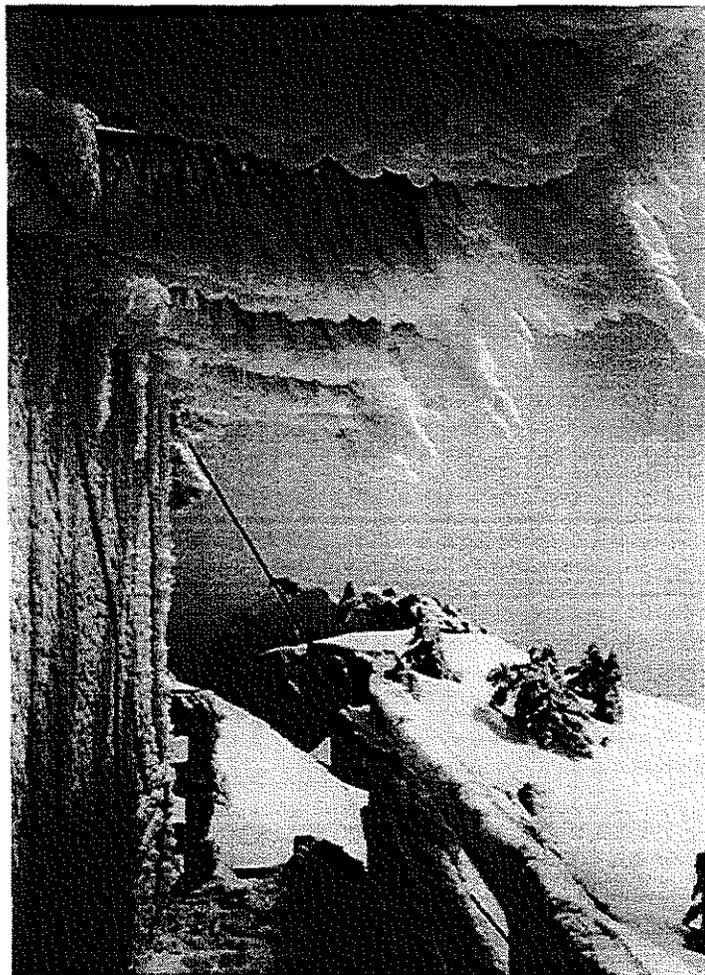
by Don Fraser

So Mt. Pilchuck isn't the most challenging hike on the Mountain Loop Highway, it's still a fun day hike. The trail is officially 3 miles long, but with the amount of snow that was still present, any chance of following the trail was hopeless so we, and most others, simply climbed straight up towards the summit. This may have reduced the distance to a scant two miles, but it was quite steep in place, and the snow was quite deep. I believe John, Kevin, Sherry, and myself followed the old ski slopes up to the ridge, which meant a fun ride on the way down, basically glissading every chance we got, which was a lot!

We started out under gray skies in South Everett and drove through several rain showers, but by the time we got to the trailhead it was snowing steadily. The forecast was for scattered clouds so we pressed on and were rewarded about half way up when the clouds started breaking up and we had partial views of freshly snow covered ridges and valleys (I don't mind the clouds hiding all the clearcut around there anyhow).

When the sun came out on the upper ridge it got downright hot. Most of the trees and the lookout were heavily encrusted in icicles providing an eerie otherworldly appearance. The sun was full out on the way down, and we met a lot of people just starting up - some with children in the 8-10 year old range. Some of the glissade paths were fairly well established and shaped like toboggan runs with good run out at the bottom - it made me glad we came down before the snow got too soft. We also saw snowboard tracks from where someone had been boarding down earlier in the day.

We started out around 9 am and were back by 2 pm, climbing at a leisurely pace and taking lots of pictures. Elevation gain was about 2000 feet (3100 to 5300). There were a few times I was glad I had my ice ax on some of the steep upper slopes as I was carrying a fairly heavy pack for conditioning. This is a great snow hike for hearty kids. The trailhead is 7 miles of rough road off the Mountain Loop Highway, turning off just past the Verlot Ranger Station.



Ice encrusted lookout atop Mt. Pilchuck

# Death Be Not Proud

A story about the Boealps Aid Climbing seminar

*Date of death: February 17, 2000*

*Cause of death: heart failure*

*sccccccrrrrreeeee. sccaaaaaghhhh. crrrrrrrrrrr.*

For about three seconds. And then she was gone.

I coasted into the Speedy gas station lot, gliding on what momentum she had left. The ghost of a machine smoothed to a stop.

“What happened?”

*“That was weird. Not good.”*

“How many miles do you have on your car?”

*“242,524 miles and going strong. Until now.”*

“Do you have AAA coverage?”

Pause. I wondered if I could get retroactive coverage.

I slowly got out of the car to open the hood, but dread filled my bones- my 1988 black Acura Integra, my faithful steed, road warrior, and constant companion for over 10 years had hardly shown the signs of aging. She never complained, though fully matured in her golden years, and I thought she'd go on forever. I had no idea what was coming, that she'd go so soon.

How quickly she shuffled off her mortal coil - the darkened shadow of evening now fixed her gaze in the dawn. A silent scream, a flap of her wings, her fiery talons outstretched. The end had come mercifully swift.

Victor, Ilan, and I shuffled around the parking lot, stamping our feet to maintain the flow of blood in the frosty air of an early Saturday morning in February. In typical Kannapell time (i.e. non-compliant), it was 7:30 am, precisely the time we should have been in Monroe to meet Tom Rogers and the Boealps gang for the annual aid climbing seminar. As I jumped and wriggled my toes to stay warm, I cycled through the alternatives.

“Let's call Chris Rudesill,” Ilan suggested, knowing his roommate's circadians might dictate an early awakening on a Saturday morning.

35 cents went in the payphone. No one answered. No change came back. In between was just voice mail. Out early to the Green Lake Starbucks for his morning latte, I figured. *Strike one.*

“I'll try Vera,” I suggested, after a long pause, fully aware of the implications of calling my spouse at said hour - if indeed, contact could be established. My caution as I turned to the pay phone was further amplified by the fact that Vera had been gone for 4 ½ weeks to Australia and Tasmania for a “business trip” and had returned only Friday afternoon. Under normal circumstance, she is normally deep in the arms of Morpheus (i.e. “a sound sleeper”), but awakening the dead under such jet lagged conditions almost certainly offered an exercise in futility. If unsuccessful, however, perhaps one could consider it a success.

I borrowed another 35 cents from Victor and Ilan, neither of whom attempted to suppress laughter at the distinctly long odds that Vera might actually hear the phone and, even greater odds, to respond to it. To no one's surprise and everyone's laughter, the answering machine spoke. I spoke back:

*"Hi honey, it's me. I hope you had a good snooze, but we're stuck out here in Kenmore, because my car died, and if you could sort of WAKE UP to help RESCUE ME because WE'RE STUCK and we could REALLY USE A RIDE, so just WAKE UP AND GET THE PHONE when you can and, here, I'll leave the phone number so you can CALL ME on this pay phone AND COME GET US, I'd really APPRECIATE ..."*  
*"click...click.click...click....ehhhhhhhhhhh"* Time had run out on the answering machine.

To my compatriots' pleasure, this phone call was repeated no less than two times, each with increased volume and fervor, culminating with my stark realization of the futility of the exercise. A Herculean labour was necessary to rouse her from her slumbers, and I lacked the requisite strength and tools (hot cup of coffee). *Strike two.*

Then an idea popped into my head – Shawn Paré. Our estimable Basic Class head instructor had at least a couple of weekends before the Basic Class got underway, which would consume the following three months. But now, perhaps it was time to see if the cage could be opened and the bird could fly. Another 35 cents was deposited. An answer:

"Shawn boy, this is Len – how are you doing?"

"Ok."

"Well, I wasn't sure if you had any plans today, but I'm calling because we've got some for you."

*"Hmmm...you must be stranded somewhere and need a ride."*

Something in my voice was a dead give away - clairvoyant, that lad, but distinctly our savior. We headed to the Kenmore Square Starbucks and I began working the crossword puzzle in earnest, as Shawn wouldn't arrive for at least an hour. We cultivated the fine art of *loitering a la Beckey*, whereby one attempts an inconspicuous presence, staying warm, and purchasing nothing. The promise of the sun's rays filtered through the coffee shop, and as I peered up from the newspaper, it occurred to me that spring was not so far away.

My car – survivor of a few wrecks and unlimited trips up and down the I-5 corridor. I wretched it out of the hands of a desperate Bellevue couple who had a new house, two new cars, a baby on the way – and no jobs, thanks to a layoff. Both worked for the same start-up in Bellevue that provided them a pink slip in early October 1989, turning their gold to dust. My purchase temporarily eased the pain.

Now, over 10 years and innumerable automotive bivouacs later, it seemed the end was near. Three days later confirmed the pallid state – the engine had seized, no compression. Scott's H&A offered to sell me a 1995 engine for \$1400, installation included – with only 150,000 miles on the engine and a 90-day warranty. The end had already come. At least I didn't have to hitch-hike home.

Oh, yes – the aid climbing seminar. I was on some unnamed route to the left of Thin Fingers at Index, bounce testing a dubious Alien placement on a horizontal traverse - I fell, pulling the Alien, an old piton driven in by some Boealper in times past, and a stopper before my tri-cam unit caught me. Damn windy out that day too. All in all, not a great day.

Len Kannapell 5/18/00

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO BETH SUNDQUIST, M/S 39-PU  
OR: 7021 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Seattle, WA 98117  
OR: beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com

NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY

ALPINE ECHO

**June ECHO staff**

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: Don Fraser, Len Kannapell

***This is a pretty skinny issue – how about submitting a trip report?!*** If you have any submissions - anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do - email them to me at [matt.robertson@boeing.com](mailto:matt.robertson@boeing.com), or drop them in inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices will work, give me a call at (425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!

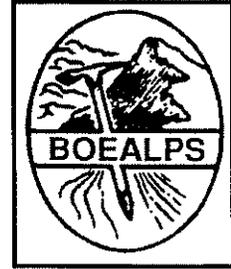


# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

July 2000

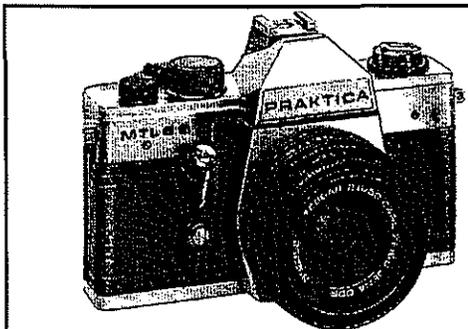


## BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY

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Treasurer	Ed Alejandro	425-865-2217 ed.alejandro@boeing.com	North	Andy Roth	425-342-1308 andrew.s.roth@boeing.com
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			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: "October Sunrise, Columbia Crest" by Mike Jacobsen

From Beth Sundquist 39-PU



## July General Meeting

### Annual Photo Competition!

Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

Oxbow Recreation Center

Submit pictures for contest - 6:30 pm

Social half hour and picture viewing - 7:00 pm

Meeting and Judging - 7:30 pm

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **Activities Jackpot!!!**

Five pages of activities – can you believe it! The June BAG-IT evening added 15 outings to the Boealps calendar – if you want to climb this summer, there's one or more activities going darn near every weekend in July and August, and there's several weekday trips offered just for good measure. Not all events are climbing, though – two outstanding sounding bike trips are being planned, as well as a long distance hiking trip. One word of caution here – the BAG-IT night wasn't perfectly coordinated, so some of the trip write ups that I received had slightly less than all the info I normally get. In some cases I had to make guesses about routes – for exact info, please call the trip leader listed for each trip. They can verify route details, time schedules and equipment and experience requirements. Special thanks to the BCC 2000 grads who showed up and offered to organize trips – your participation in the club is most warmly welcomed!

## **A Changing of Chairs...**

Beth Sundquist will be turning the Membership Chair position over to Prashantha Bhat as of mid-July. Beth has done a fabulous job during her stint, and I'd like to send my personal thanks for all the help she gave me with getting the mailing labels pulled together for the Echo each month. Beth will be heading out of town on July 18<sup>th</sup> (there seems to be some wanderlust disease making its way through Boealps these days!), and Prash will be taking over as of then. If you have a question about membership, or if your address needs updating, you can contact Prash at Prashantha.Bhat@PSS.Boeing.com, M/S OK-19, 425-294-0955(w), 206-546-6032(h) or at 23227 97<sup>th</sup> Ave W, Edmonds, WA 98020. Whew – if you can't reach him with all that contact info, you're not trying hard enough! Welcome, Prash, and thanks for volunteering!

## **Darrington Access Fund Project**

The Access Fund, the North Face and the Washington Trails Association are co-sponsoring a trail maintenance project near Darrington July 8-9, 2000. Volunteers are need to work on a section of the Forest Service's Squire Creek Pass trail –this is a trail that's especially important to climbers as it provides access to Three O'clock Rock, the most popular crag at Darrington. Like most other crags near Darrington, Three O'clock Rock is an exfoliating granite dome, similar to domes found in Yosemite National Park. The climbing is mostly traditional, with routes ranging from 5.6 to 5.11 and an emphasis on knobby face and slab climbing. It is one of the most scenic climbing areas in the state. The Squire Creek Pass trail has not been maintained for many years and is in serious need of attention.

Volunteers can work one day or camp overnight and work both days. Because the work will take place within a designated wilderness area, the work party size will be limited and all volunteers need to sign up in advance so that party size, tool and coordination can be properly planned. Basic Class graduates: note that if you go out for just one day, you'll earn a second one day trail park permit and be able to turn the two of them in for an annual pass. If you didn't graduate this year because you missed the trail maintenance weekends, here's a chance to volunteer and fulfill that requirement, while working on a trail that has a lot of significance to the climbing community.

To sign up, go the <http://www.wta.org> and select "Trail Teams." The web page will guide you from there. For more information (but NOT to sign up!), call or email Matt Perkins at 206-781-2520 or [mattp@seanet.com](mailto:mattp@seanet.com) or Andy Fitz at 253-761-7866 or [fitlan@seanet.com](mailto:fitlan@seanet.com).

## **Boealps Web Site...**

The club's web site at <http://www.boealps.org> is still a great place to get last minute details about upcoming club activities. Maps for the June camp out were posted there, there's a bunch of new pictures from this year's Basic Class, and Rob always gets the issue of the Echo before the print shop does, so if you want to check out the Echo before it arrives at your mail stop or your mail box, browse on over and click on the newsletter link! Also, if you're trying to hook up with other climbers for an outing, the Notice Board link will let you leave a message with what you're planning to do and how many partners you'd like. If you have any comments or suggestions for the web site, send them to Rob at [admin@boealps.org](mailto:admin@boealps.org). The password (needed for activities and the member's roster sections) is still: SLESSE

From the desk of your editor,

  
Matt Robertson

**August Echo deadline is July 20<sup>th</sup>**

## July, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> New Moon Canada Day Mt. Adams Biking Idaho
<b>2</b> Mt. Adams Biking Idaho	<b>3</b> Mt. Adams Biking Idaho	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of July</b> Biking Idaho	<b>5</b> Biking Idaho	<b>6</b> General meeting and Photo competition Biking Idaho	<b>7</b> Biking Idaho	<b>8</b> Vesper Biking Idaho
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Squamish	<b>15</b> Tomyhoi South Brother Squamish
<b>16</b> Full Moon Tomyhoi South Brother Squamish	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Echo deadline	<b>21</b> Ingalls	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Mt. Daniel Black Peak Glacier Basin
<b>30</b> Mt. Daniel Black Peak Glacier Basin	<b>31</b> New Moon					

## August, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Club picnic at Marymoor	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> New Moon Gothic Peak
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Full Moon	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Devils Peak Eldorado Maude & Seven Fingered Jack
<b>20</b> Devils Peak Eldorado Maude & Seven Fingered Jack	<b>21</b> Silver Star	<b>22</b> Silver Star	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Echo deadline	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> North PCT Sloan Peak
<b>27</b> North PCT Sloan Peak Klawatti/Austera	<b>28</b> North PCT Klawatti/Austera	<b>29</b> New Moon North PCT Klawatti/Austera	<b>30</b> North PCT	<b>31</b> North PCT		

## Programs

By Victor Yagi

### July General Meeting Program:

July 6<sup>th</sup> will be the annual photo contest. There will be lots of good prizes, and lots of categories. All you basic class graduates, get your photos ready to submit to the basic class photo category. For more details, see the photo competition flyer elsewhere in this issue...

### Upcoming Events:

#### Picnic:

August 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the annual picnic at Marymoor Park in Redmond. Save the day to join friends and family for an evening at the climbing rock or an excursion over to the velodrome. Show up any time after work, plan on a pot luck, and visit and climb until the park kicks us out at sunset!

#### Elections:

September 7<sup>th</sup> will be the club elections (location still to be determined). Come out for a good time, free food, and to get involved with the club. All board positions will be up for election this year, and several of the committee chairs will be open as well. There are opportunities for as little or as much involvement as you'd like – this is your chance to get more involved with the club, and to volunteer some time back to help make this club a great organization!

#### Banquet:

October 6<sup>th</sup> will be our annual banquet. We'll be holding it at the Mountaineer's club house this year, and the featured speaker will be Jim Wickwire. Jim is one of the best known Northwest climbers, with extensive Himalayan and Alaskan climbing experience. He recently wrote his autobiography, "Addicted to Danger". This is always an evening of great fun – put it on your calendar and watch for additional details in future issues of the Echo...

Victor: 425-477-4812 or yagwan@yahoo.com

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## Gallery of Scoundrels

Photos by Len Kannapell



Dan Goering, aka "Sasquatch"



Ron "Romeo" Fleck sandwiched between Pam Kaiser-Pare and Vera Trainer



Paul "Don't Even Ask" Pyscher

# Boealps Activity Submittal Form

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

Trip date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mountain or area: \_\_\_\_\_

Elevation: \_\_\_\_\_

Route: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Rating: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Time(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Maps Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Skills Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Persons: \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

Contact Info: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

## Submit activities to

Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

# hikes ● scrambles ● ski trips ● climbs ● other

## Mt. Adams via the North Ridge (12,276')

July 1-3

Climb the second highest peak in Washington by a lonely, but non-technical, route. The plan will be to put in an easy first day by taking the Killen Creek trail up to camp at about 7000 feet. Sunday will be a long day, climbing to the summit via the north ridge and returning to base camp. This route does not cross any glaciers, so harnesses and other relevant gear can be left home (expect steep snow and bring appropriate gear for that). Monday will be another short day, which will allow for getting on the roads before the 3 day weekend traffic builds too badly.

**Party Limit** 12

**Route** North Ridge, Grade II, Class 2

**Equipment** Standard snow travel gear – ice axes, crampons, helmets.

**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent

**Contact** Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h)

Note: I will only be organizing this climb, not actually going on it – I'll need someone to volunteer to be the actual trip leader. There will be a trip planning session on the evening of June 28.

## Bike Mountaineering in the St. Joe Mountains, Idaho

July 1-9

By popular demand we are returning to the Silver Valley of Idaho for a week of outstanding mountain cycling. With the recent opening of the *Route of the Hiawatha* (a 14 mile rail trail of tunnels and trestles served by shuttlebus) this mountain bike mecca has even gotten better.

Our base camp will be situated along the banks of the North Fork St. Joe River, 9 miles north of Avery and 30 minutes from the city of Historic Wallace -- one of the few communities in the USA to be totally included in the National Historic Register.

Cycling opportunities abound, and include:

Stevens Peak -- Rick Ridgeway's old training ground

The Cranky Gulch-Bad Tom Loop -- a local classic

Shefoot Mountain -- a lofty summit that has thus far eluded Lizard

Dominion Peak -- a dominant peak along the crest of the Bitterroots

Granite Peak from Cooper Pass -- a X/C bike mountaineering epic

Milepoints 130 to 150 of the ID/MT stateline -- an exciting search for 100 yr old survey monuments that will be of special interest to GPS users and students of the Old West.

**Party Limit** none

**Equipment** Mountain bike and camping gear

**Experience** Fit riders with off-road experience

**Contact** Lizard, 425-865-3783, john.livvar@PSS.Boeing.com

## Vesper Peak (6214')

July 8

A fun scramble up beautiful granite slabs through an area thick with mining relics. If there's time and motivation, we'll do Sperry Peak as well

**Party Limit** 8

**Route** East Ridge, Grade I, Class 3

**Equipment** Standard scramble gear

**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent

**Contact** Zak Imboden, 206-390-1815, summercamp@home.com

## Squamish, British Columbia

July 14-16

Put your new skills from the basic class to use. Learn how to set up a top rope, place your own protection or practice leading on the safety of a top rope.

Squamish is located about 40 miles north of Vancouver, BC and boasts some of the best rock climbing in the cosmos. The granite cliffs surrounding Squamish (which includes the colossal Stawamus Chief, the world's second largest granite monolith) draw climbers from around the world. The Little Smoke Bluffs, Murrin Provincial Park, Comic Rocks and Cheakamus Canyon offer a multitude of one and two pitch climbs of all difficulties.

But, believe it or not, climbing isn't everything! Here's more info about the area:

The Squamish Spit, located at the mouth of the Squamish River where it enters Howe Sound, is considered by many windsurfing aficionados to be one of the top 10 windsurfing locations in the world. In the summer when the sun shines, the thermal winds blow allowing wind surfers to reach speeds exceeding 60 kilometers an hour. Novices perfect techniques on many of the local lakes, or spend the day near the orcas in a seakayak.

Squamish has established itself as one of the premiere mountain biking communities in British Columbia, if not the world, because of its abundant technical and fun mountain bike trails.

Hiking trails ranging from easy walks to strenuous backcountry adventures abound in the Squamish area. A great day hike is a one - three hour "Stairmaster" excursion up the backside of the Stawamus Chief. You can also hike in Garibaldi Provincial Park, Lake Lovely Water Provincial Park, Alice Lake Provincial Park, in the Squamish River Estuary, around Brohm Lake and Deeks Lake just to name a few.

<b>Party Limit</b>	None
<b>Route</b>	Too many to start to describe, Class I – V, Grade 5.easy to 5.dream on!
<b>Equipment</b>	Rock shoes, harness, 'biners, belay device, slings, rope, helmet, car camping equipment
<b>Experience</b>	Basic Class grad or equivalent
<b>Contact</b>	Andrew Keleher, 360-435-8831, andrew_keleher@beaerospace.com Tom Yocum, 425-294-5043, thomas.e.yocum@boeing.com

## Tomyhoi Peak (7451')

July 15-16

This climb has it all – a steep trail, granite bowls, mining relics, a short top of a glacier crossing, scrambling and views, views, views (assuming the weather cooperates)! Tomyhoi's position provides for fine views into the Fraser River valley in Canada to the north, of the Canadian and American Border peaks to the east, and of Mts. Baker and Shuksan to the south. The plan is to hump overnight gear up to just under Yellow Aster Butte, then hopefully climb Tomyhoi the same day. The next morning will include time to do the easy hike up to the top of Yellow Aster Butte before breaking camp and heading back down.

<b>Party Limit</b>	8
<b>Route</b>	Southeast route, Grade I, Class 3
<b>Equipment</b>	Standard snow travel and overnight gear – no ropes or other technical gear will be needed
<b>Experience</b>	Basic Class grad or equivalent
<b>Contact</b>	Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h) Note: I will only be organizing this climb, not actually going on it – I'll need someone to volunteer to be the actual trip leader. There will be a trip planning session on the evening of July 12.

## South Brother, Olympics (6866')

July 15-16

An ultra-classic! Lena Lake, the Valley of the Silent Men, and one of the highest points in the Olympics as seen from Seattle

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** South couloir, Route 1; Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard scramble and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Jenny Riddell, jriddell@u.washington.edu, 425-255-0346

## North Ingalls Peak (7662')

July 21

A pretty approach ends in a beautiful basin with stunning views of Mt. Stuart. Climb 2-3 easy pitches on interesting rock (don't try to friction on the slick, green serpentine!) to the summit

**Party Limit** 4  
**Route** Southwest Face; Grade I, class 4 or low 5<sup>th</sup> class  
**Equipment** Standard rock gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Carson Kaan, carsonk@xsides.com

## Mount Daniel (7960') and Cathedral Rock (6724')

July 29-30

Camp at beautiful Peggy's Pond and climb one of the Cascade's massive glaciated peaks, then scramble up a fun rock tower

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Daniel: southeast shoulder; Grade I, Class 3. Cathedral Rock: northwest couloir; Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard scramble and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Patrick Connor, 206-937-9938

## Black Peak (8970')

July 29-30

Camp at Wing Lake for a climb of Black Peak. Call trip leader for route details

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Call trip leader  
**Equipment** Standard overnight gear, technical gear depends on route  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Jerry and Kathy Baillie, 206-283-6870, jandkbaillie@home.com

## Cadet Peak (7186')

July 29-30

Camp in beautiful Glacier Basin, then climb Cadet Peak. Depending on party number and interest Monte Cristo Peak, the Wilmans Spires and Kyes Peak may be added and/or substituted

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Standard  
**Equipment** Standard overnight and scrambling gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Chris Gronau, 425-965-6546, christopher.w.gronau@boeing.com

## **Gothic Peak (6213')**

**August 5**

A pretty little summit above a lovely alpine lake looking across the valley to the Monte Cristo mining area. Lots of mining relics along the way, and a waterfall named "King Kong's shower bath"!

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Standard route; Class 2-3  
**Equipment** Standard scramble gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** James Schalla, 425-294-0306, james.p.schalla@boeing.com

## **Devils Peak (5455')**

**August 19-20**

For those of you who were denied the summit in the Basic Class, here's your chance to stand on top without having to worry about snow conditions

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Southeast route, Grade I, Class 4  
**Equipment** Standard climbing equipment and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** David Hamilton, dhamilton@museumofflight.org, 206-297-7353

## **Mt. Maude (9040') and Seven Fingered Jack (9100')**

**August 19-20**

Two of the Cascade's Big Boys! Call the trip leader for route details.

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Call trip leader  
**Equipment** Standard overnight gear, technical gear depends on route  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Jerry and Kathy Baillie, 206-283-6870, jandkbaillie@home.com

## **Talapus Lake**

**August 19**

BoBabys go swimming! Last year we did this trip in September and it was just a tad chilly (for the adults anyway, the kids didn't seem to mind!), so this year we'll go when the water is hopefully warmer. Hike an easy 2 miles to a pretty little alpine lake under the east side of Bandera Mountain. Toddlers may be able to walk, but the trail is not stroller friendly.

**Party Limit** 8 toddlers and their support adults  
**Equipment** Swim diapers, towels, changes of clothes  
**Experience** It will be one!  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h)

## **Eldorado Peak (8868')**

**August 19-20**

A strenuous approach to a stunning summit ridge, with awesome views of the North Cascades

**Party Limit** 6  
**Route** Eldorado Glacier, Grade II  
**Equipment** Standard glacier and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Brian Tryba, rockmobster@hotmail.com

**Silver Star (8876')****August 21-22 or August 26-27**

Look down on Liberty Bell and Washington Pass from the highest peak in the area

- Party Limit** 8  
**Route** South route, Grade I, Class 3 or 4  
**Equipment** Standard climbing equipment and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Glenn Tomchik, glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com, 206-544-7580

**Sloan Peak (7835')****August 26-27**

A great route on the "Matterhorn of the Cascades", and the highest summit west of Glacier Peak

- Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Corkscrew route (south face and upper west face), Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard glacier and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Ilan Angwin, iangwin@hotmail.com, 206-729-0640

**Klawatti Peak (8485') and Austera Peak (8334')****August 27-29**

Take a three-day trip into the heart of the North Cascades with the Baillies. Call trip leader for route details

- Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Call trip leader  
**Equipment** Standard overnight gear, technical gear depends on route  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Jerry and Kathy Baillie, 206-283-6870, jandkbailie@home.com

**Pacific Crest Trail through the North Cascades****Aug. 26-Sept. 4**

Hike the incredibly beautiful northern portion of the Pacific Crest trail from Rainy Pass to its end in Manning Park in Canada. A dropoff at Rainy Pass will be arranged, and we'll catch the Greyhound Bus back from Manning Park. There are several class 2 and class 3 peaks and high alpine meadows to hike through – the actual length of the trip will depend on whether or not the group wants to spend some time scrambling peaks.

- Party Limit** 6  
**Route** Pacific Crest Trail, Rainy Pass to Manning Park in Canada  
**Equipment** Standard backpacking gear plus climbing gear if peaks are to be attempted  
**Experience** Backpacker for hiking portion, basic class grad for climbs  
**Contact** Janet Oliver, 425 413-0298, oliverj2@att.net

**Sahale Peak (8680')****September 16-17**

One of the most beautiful viewpoints in the North Cascades via the spectacular Boston Basin.

- Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Qien Sabe Glacier, Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard glacier and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Tom Ryan, tom-p.ryan@frco.com, 425-487-8706(w), 206-527-2724(h)

**Submit activities to: Ilan Angwin****206-729-0640****iangwin@hotmail.com**

# THE BOEALPS ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

## July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2000

Start rounding up your slides and prints - the Boealps Annual Photo Contest will be held at the July general meeting!

Prizes will be given out for the categories listed below with the exception of the Echo Cover category. First place winning slides and prints will be displayed in the Alpine Echo (with permission of the photographer). The top four placing slides and/or prints in the Echo Cover category will get placed on the Echo cover for three months each over the course of the next year.

### Categories

Mountain Scenes

Climbing

Nature Scenes

People

Sunsets & Sunrise

Boealps Climbing Class

Most Embarrassing

Echo Cover\*

For each category, there will be two sets of prizes, one for prints and one for slides.

(\*except for the Echo Cover, which will be a combined category. All entries in this category must have high contrast and a horizontal orientation - vertical orientations will not fit on the cover.)

### How to enter:

Show up at 6:30 pm if you plan on entering any slides or prints.

Entry forms will be provided at the meeting.

Your name should appear on each entry. (For slides, write on the frame; for prints, attach a note to the back.)

Each person may have a maximum of 2 entries per category.

### Rules:

- Do not enter photos that have won in previous years (The Echo cover category is not subject to this rule).
- You must be the actual photographer of your entry.
- All entries must be of club interest.

Any final arbitration rests with the club photography chair whose decision is final.

## June Board Meeting Minutes

Boealps board meeting June 19, 2000

The meeting was held at Bill's house. In attendance were Bill Harrison, Len Kannapell, Beth Sundquist, Victor Yagi, Ilan Angwin, Matt Robertson and Glenn Tomchik. Shawn Pare and Ed Hahne were present to represent the Basic and Intermediate Classes.

The following business was discussed:

Activities: Banquet is Planned for Oct 6 at the Mountaineers Lodge. Fall Outing is planned for Sept 30th. The Tieton Canyon is the primary consideration for the outing. The Tieton offer excellent rock climbing in an area rarely climbed. The Sept. 30 date may also allow whitewater rafting opportunities.

Beth Sundquist is taking an extended leave of absence and will no longer be able to perform the membership duties. Any volunteer (does not have to be a Boeing Employee) would be welcome.

By-Laws: Two By-law changes are proposed this year: 1) to allow board members to be eligible for re-election up to three years. 2) to add to the responsibilities of the Treasurer to File the annual IRS Tax Statement. The first item is proposed because of the limited number of candidates for positions on the board such as Treasurer has already put us in violation of the current rules. The second will be discussed below. These changes will be voted on by Boealps Members at the Monthly Meeting in July.

After a review by Boeing of all Recreational Clubs, Boealps and other Clubs were found not in compliance with Federal and State Laws related to filing of Tax statements for non-profit organizations. The last two board meetings have been dominated by developing a plan where the Boealps can comply with the requirements and require a minimum of effort for future board members.

The minimum threshold for filing is income receipts of \$13,000. Since this is roughly the amount of money collected for the Basic Class, there is no feasible way to fall below the minimum. If the amount of cash in exceeds \$25,000 the club is required to file a more complex form that would require an Accountant. This measure is purely based on the amounts of money received and not amount of money spent. The primary sources of money into the Boealps in order of magnitude are 1) The Basic Climbing Class, 2) Membership Dues 3) The Intermediate Class 4) Pass throughs for seminars 5) Tickets for the Annual Dinner 6) The Annual Ski Trip.

The plan discussed and agreed on is to restructure the incoming receipts to prevent the total cash in from exceeding \$25,000. The budgets in recent years have exceeded this amount. The primary method of preventing this from happening would be to eliminate "pass-throughs" that occur for various seminars such as MOFA, Avalanche Safety, etc. Even though the cash comes into the Boealps accounts and passes out to the seminar organizer, these count towards the threshold of cash in.

Because of the unusually small Basic Class and the canceled Intermediate Class, the 2000 Budget should be able to meet the under \$25,000 requirement. However, if the primary classes were the normal size, the limit would have been exceeded. The plan for 2001 is to eliminate pass through for seminars such as Avalanche, MOFA and other seminars and to eliminate pass through for events such as the annual ski trip. This may force the burden of collecting the individual payments to the organizer of the event or the individual that is giving the course/seminar.

The plan to deal with the tax filing still requires further development and will be an ongoing topic for the board meetings.

Glenn Tomchik, secretary



***CONSERVATION CORNER***  
By Troy Colyer

## Fund preservation of Cascade corridor

The Cascades Conservation Partnership has unveiled an ambitious three-year plan to buy and preserve as part of the National Forest Service system nearly 75,000 acres of privately owned forest land in the Cascades. The general thrust of the proposal is to create a wildlife corridor down the spine of the Cascade Range from the Alpine Lakes Wilderness to Mount Rainier National Park and link it with five adjoining wilderness areas

The proposal is meant to help eliminate the infamous "checkerboard" ownerships of land in the Cascades, an ecologically unmanageable legacy of the government's land grants to railroads in the mid-1800s. That pattern of ownership promotes clear-cutting of habitat in private forests adjoining national forests where efforts are under way to save habitat for wildlife.

The Cascades Conservation Partnership has pledged to raise \$25 million to \$30 million from private sources to help purchase the forests and is asking Congress for up to \$150 million to make the plan work.

When the U.S. Department of Transportation proposes in coming years to widen I-90 between Snoqualmie and Cle Elum, environmentalists and wildlife managers plan to present them with plans for underpasses or overpasses so that wildlife can cross without meeting traffic. If those bridges connect wild areas to land still occupied by logging trucks, however, the point might be moot.

"That's the problem," said Fred Munson, who is coordinating the campaign. "If we do nothing, eventually we'll just have to separate ecosystems."

The web site has maps of the proposal as well as a sample letter to write to Senator Slade Gorton.  
<http://www.ecosystem.org/tccp/index.html>

## Comments on Roadless Areas Due JULY 17th!!!

At stake are more than 2,500 miles of trail (more than a quarter of all of Washington's trails) and more than 2 million acres of unprotected roadless areas in National Forests. Please send a letter to the Forest Service and tell them you want Washington's remaining backcountry trails, pristine forests, clean rivers, and wild salmon protected for future generations. We may never have another opportunity to address their protection.

By mail to:  
USDA Forest Service-CAET  
Attn: Roadless  
PO Box 22190  
Salt Lake City, UT 84122

By e-mail to [roadlessdeis@fs.fed.us](mailto:roadlessdeis@fs.fed.us)  
By fax to 877-703-2494

# Del Campo Peak

June 17, 2000

by Aggie

Five of us - Me, Kathy, Prash, Hau Pho and James from the Bad Adz team (whose motto is "Climb like a Bad Adz" - what the heck does that mean, anyway?) went to Del Campo Peak last Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, a clear, sunny, warm day.

We lost the trail under snow about 3.5 miles in and turned uphill. After some bushwhacking through the trees we found some steps in the snow and followed them, more or less, until we broke out into a snow-filled basin under the front side of Del Campo. The other group headed left across the basin towards the pass into Gothic basin proper, but we elected to go straight up on the snow and take our chances on navigation. Snow conditions were consolidated spring snow, good steps.

We eventually topped out at the top of the long drainage on the front side of Del Campo, the last place to get across the ridge before the Del Campo cliffy ridge starts on the right. We were right on route - amazing! We headed along the shelf under the Del Campo ramparts towards the notch, and another Boealper, David Steiner, and his dad on a father's day climb. They told us the top scramble was easy, stay to the left. (Editor's note: See David's trip report of the same climb elsewhere in this issue!)

On up towards the notch, where the Del Campo peak is on the left and the ridge is on the right. We followed the steps, so we got on the rock to the left of the notch, which is apparently a smart thing to do, as the notch proper makes you climb some fifth class slab to get out of it. We just followed the steps.

The rock had a few marginal holds just at the start, but quickly became easy with big shelves and good handholds. Kathy scrambled up first. The rock led to a sort of saddle, with maybe a four-foot wall barring access, and we could see a snowfield beyond that, but it was never clear where the summit was. There were no steps on the snowfield, so Kathy turned left up a shelf below the wall holding the snowfield. I didn't think it looked too promising, but she was already on it when I got there, so we started working along up the shelf. The rock there was in slabs that were set more or less vertically against the wall, making nice cracks to get our hands down into. It was also blocky and had good footholds, but it was way loose. This made me suspicious, but not enough.

Kathy had worked up near the top of the shelf when she pulled off a big hunk of rock, maybe 2 feet long, 1 foot wide and 3-4 inches deep. It flew out past her, and I looked down and saw Hau Pho right under it in on the rock coming up from the snow. I shouted "Rock! ROCK! \*\*\*ROOCCCCCKKK\*\*\*", and so did everybody else, and I started reviewing what to do for people who got an arm torn off, but Hau looked up at this rock (and two or three other, smaller but still big pieces that went with it) and \*ran\* up the rock he was on about ten feet, and all of the rocks missed. Whew.

That did not deter Kathy, who made all of us continue up the shelf, avoiding lots of other loose rock, until it ended in a more-or-less impassable overhanging gendarme. So we turned around and edged back down, and as we did we discovered that there was a more or less obvious path to the \*right\* that went around the four foot wall and on up the left edge of the snow field.

At this point I think Hau was leading, and he chose to stay near the right side of the ridge, which went OK with reasonable scrambling and some interaction with a tree, until we actually got to a very nice summit. All the mountains were out, we could see from the Olympics to Baker to Glacier to Rainier. I caught 20 minutes of ZZZs while Kathy looked around and tried to identify peaks and Hau finally remembered that he had brought up binoculars. About the time we decided to go back down Kathy started to set up her camera to take a picture of us all, and a lone climber came around the corner, just in time to take our picture. Quality summit time!

I led down and stayed more left of the ridge, in rock shelves with some heather above the snowfield, which seemed to make for easier downclimbing than further right near the ridge edge, and we walked back down to the ridge crossing where we had come up. Next step, glissade, down into the stream basin, and then we had a choice, go back the way we came up, which would have involved maybe two more nice glissades, or

follow some other steps that came up from the left, which would make our path out shorter - or so we thought. Well, we chose the left steps, which turned out to be a mistake.

We traversed across and down and across and down, and came to a steep-sided stream gully to cross. I was gingerly working down the slope when I heard a curse above me and a lot of snow started flowing past. I was fairly confident that a body would go by next, and one did, knocking me out of my steps. I ended up sliding fairly slowly down the face, and just barely had to grab the shaft of my axe and arrest, digging my feet in since the snow was a bit soft. Then I looked below. The body was Hau, who had apparently lost his footing just looking at the slope, not even descending it. He was OK, but below him Kathy was still sliding down the bottom of the stream gully below some rocks. She was looking up and smiling. I did the instructor thing - I yelled "\*arrest\*," which she did.

Although Kathy had gone over a couple of exposed rocks, her pack had taken the impact, and all she had was a jammed thumb, not very bad, apparently. Hau was also OK. I remembered that there were a couple more people on the top of the slope, so I hustled to get on the other side of the gully, and a good thing too because Prash wiped out trying to come down the slide path, which was now smoothed off to the hard snow.

We continued following the steps down until we got to where they entered the woods. We tracked them through intermittent snow patches for a while, but then lost them when the snow petered out. We knew the trail was below us, but we didn't know how far. Every time we tried to go down, we found steep cliffs below. At one point I climbed down a four-foot rock to check out what looked like trail, but which turned out to be just a clearing under a cliff. I stabbed myself in the thigh (scratched pretty good) and had an interesting time getting back up. To make matters worse, the older guy who had summited behind us, and his wife, followed us into the woods and were lost near us. The bushwhacking was pretty frustrating in not-quite-yet-bloomed slide alder, and I was dehydrated and getting pretty annoyed with the whole thing. Kathy got out the map, and we figured if we moved a bit to the right the slope should be passable (we identified a ridge that seemed to be over to the right - and was) and so I led down through the brush. When it became clear that we had a passable slope we called back to the other couple, but they had moved out of earshot. I still don't know if they made it out. (I assume so - no reports of missing climbers.) Anyway, a couple hundred feet of bushwhacking straight down and I staggered out into the trail straddling a slide alder, and after that it was just a slog out.

Kathy had been singing the praises of the Mountain View's Chicken Fried Steak (which John Alley calls the "heart stopper") since I picked her up in the morning, and that's where we went for dinner.

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### A Good Climber Knows how to Conserve Energy...



The "Prez" (Bill Harrison), relaxing at a recent crevasse rescue outing

**Del Campo Peak**  
**Saturday June 17, 2000**  
**Scribe: David Steiner**

I had been talking with my Dad for about three weeks before Father's Day trying to nail down our annual Father's Day outing. Having a 2½ year old and a 2 month old doesn't allow me to get out hiking/climbing very often (with the exception of Bo-Baby outings!) especially in the last 3 months. We still hadn't finalized our plans, only that we were going to climb something off the Mountain Loop Highway since we would be spending the weekend at my parents cabin on the Mountain Loop so Grandma could help out with the kids. I threw a quick pack together Friday after work, packed everyone in the car, and headed up to the cabin.

I had expected we were going to be going up Dickerman, Pilchuk or Forgotten, but instead we decided on Del Campo. My dad hadn't been up there in a while and wanted to try it again, I hadn't been up it yet and it was supposed to be a beautiful day. We got started hiking about 7 or so the next morning and the trail was mostly in great shape until we started hitting snow. It was a beautiful day: bright blue skies and views for miles, but I wasn't looking forward to heading across the snowfields in this sun. We got off route at the first big snowfield cutting across a large open slope with a large rock wall waterfall at the top. Since the trail didn't appear to come on the other side of the snowfield and our map didn't exactly show the trail we pulled out our ice axes and headed straight up the snowfield. The snowfield was more of a large avalanche chute with a large rock wall waterfall at the top. We cut off to the left side of the waterfall through some very thick brush/trees and ended up scrambling up some small creek beds until we reached snow again. I was not looking forward to going down that little section of brush and hoped no-one else followed our footsteps up that snowfield. Once we made it back on the snow we just traversed around the base of Del Campo and headed up to the notch. We had a few pit stops every now and then to re-apply sunscreen.

The rock scramble was uneventful although I would highly recommend helmets since there was a lot of loose rock. We made it to the summit around noon and the views from the top were great, from Baker to Rainier to the Olympics. We made a quick phone call back to the cabin and had lunch. The summit register was full, we managed to squeeze our names in on the back cover and noted 4 people had been up yesterday but no-one else had signed it this year. The register book said if it was full to bring it down and return it to the Mountaineers, so we reluctantly decided to do so. I'd never noticed the "Return to The Mountaineers... when full" statement before and I hated to leave the summit with no summit register but decided to anyway.

Coming down off the rocks and starting down the snowfield we ran into some fellow Boealpers ! Kathy H, Aggie, and some students from this year. I was relieved to be able to hand the summit register to Kathy at this point and let them either leave it on top or pack it out and send it in. I was also happy to not be going down in the uphill steps as the first thing Aggie mentioned to the recently graduated students is this is why you don't go down the uphill steps because you might run into someone you know on the way back down! They also mentioned something about our interesting route choice, as they had followed our steps up the snow chute around the waterfall.

We did take a much better route on the way down, and were back at the car by 3:00.

## Camp Shurman, Mt. Rainier

June 3-4, 2000

By Don Fraser

My third thought before getting out of the tent on Sunday morning was wondering if I'd still be able to see any of the climbing parties ascending the Emmons Glacier toward the summit that had left the night before. It was just about sunrise (which was awesome!) and I thought that surely they'd be practically on top by now. My second thought was whether my GoreTex shell would be frozen stiff. It had been dead still when we hit the sack but the wind seemed to be blowing hard and steady through most of the night. My first thought, of course, was "Boy do I gotta take a leak!"

Much to my surprise, although the tent was getting whipped around pretty good despite the four-foot walls we had built around them, the wind really wasn't that bad. Also much to my surprise there was a long line of climbers inching up the hill, really not that far from us, it seemed. Some had already turned around mid-way and were on their way down. From Camp Shurman you can see most of the route up to the rim.

Our original destination had been an overnighter at Three Fingers. Since a few people on the trip were using it as snow camping practice for a Mt. Rainier climb, when road conditions made Three Fingers iffy, switching to Camp Shurman seemed like a good choice. It also has more elevation gain (5000') and longer distance (6 miles), plus the opportunity to camp at elevation (9400'). Mostly we wanted to see what kind of shape we were in when we got there – we had no intentions of summiting. Getting a permit had not been a problem. We also got to practice glacier travel on the way up.

The road in to the White River campground had just recently opened up. We were hiking through snow patches from the start and the snow was still relatively untrampled; only a few tracks going up and some ski tracks coming down. Coming back on Sunday was a different story. Lots of day skiers and hikers coming in.

The hike into Glacier Basin is about 3.5 miles along White River. Mt. Rainier isn't visible until about a mile in, so you have much more of a feeling of starting off from the bottom as opposed to starting from Paradise. We stopped for lunch and to catch our breath at the bottom of the Interglacier, just past Glacier Basin Camp. There were about 30 other climbers above or below us, many just there to ski for the day.

We had left Issaquah at 6 a.m. that Saturday and were on the trail by 9 a.m., arriving at Camp Shurman around 5:30 p.m. We immediately set to work building a tent platform and cooking area, as none were available. I was glad we'd made the walls high even though everybody was looking at us like we were a bunch of Boeing engineers or something.

Although I've been to Camp Muir I don't have any idea what the Disappointment Cleaver route looks like. As the trail up from Shurman winds its way through and over many crevasses, I asked the Ranger about the stability on the route. He felt it has good stability and was in fact much safer than Disappointment Cleaver. Sure enough, two climbers were hit by falling ice on the DC route that morning and had to be air lifted off.

It became apparent that a cloud had situated itself on top of the summit. Climbers returned throughout the morning, most too tired or sore to continue. One party of three returned at 9 a.m. They had made it to the rim but turned around because visibility was so poor.

The trip down from Shurman started with an interesting little climb up Steamboat Prow. It is steep enough where I'd much rather climb up it than down it. From the top of Steamboat Prow it's pretty much a glissade 2000' down the Interglacier, as long as you don't mind glissading over a few cracks in the snow. We were home by 4:30 that afternoon.

## The Continuing Saga of Dan Goering...

Merhaba from Istanbul!

We've been in town a week now and my girlfriend Patty and I are departing tonight for Konya on the bus where we will begin the real bike portion of our trip. Turkey is a big country and, after studying the maps and possibilities, our plan is to bike from Konya (the center of the whirling dervish religious cult) eastwards to Cappadocia (an area with amazing underground cities carved from the soft rock), then south to the Mediterranean coast, then follow the coastline back west until it bends north to Ephesus, the center of some marvelous ruins dating back as early as the 11th century BC!

Our flight to Amsterdam on Northwest Airlines was not so nice (we had a very surly cabin crew). In our one day layover, we mailed 2 boxes of climbing gear to Austria for later retrieval, had coffee and toured the Ann Frank house with Guido (a Dutch friend of a friend), drank some beers in the oldest pub in Amsterdam with a father/daughter pair, and caught our KLM flight on to Istanbul the next morning. (GREAT service and very friendly cabin crew!) Our arrival at the Istanbul airport was a wet one and it was after 6 pm when we got our bikes reassembled (no damage enroute!) so we hopped a cab into town.

We spent two nights in the Yücelt youth hostel in the heart of the Sutanahmet district, where many of the tourist sights are located, and then moved in with Patty's Hawaiian cousin-in-law Liliu and her Turkish partner Kağan. Their apartment in the Bebek neighborhood has a nice view over the Bosphorous Strait, and they were marvelous hosts who totally spoiled us with their hospitality. Their chow-chow dog Mei Lei has adopted us too! In the past week, we've managed to see most of the standard tourist sights such as the Blue Mosque and the Topkapi Palace, as well as a few less standard adventures.

"Please don't bike in Istanbul. The drivers here are crazy!" These were the words Liliu had greeted us with when we first met and now we found ourselves doing just that, swerving our way alongside the green waters of the Bosphorous Strait towards the ferry docks at Kabataş. And a lot of swerving was required, not to avoid speeding cars, but to avoid the parked ones, the potholes and the pedestrians. Riding the sidewalks kept us out of reach of the crazed drivers who likely would barely notice if they clipped a bicycle and sent its rider sailing to the pavement. On the sidewalk, a small burst of speed with our pannier-laden bikes was often enough to convince the oncoming pedestrians to make a bit of space for us. The price of being terrorizers instead of the terrorized was a frequent and grueling lifting of our heavy bikes over curbs without ramped cuts, around parked cars and off into the road when the sidewalk became too narrow for us to pass.

We were off on our first test ride with full gear for a day on Büyükada, the largest of the Prince's Islands in the Bosphorous Strait. The sultans of the Ottoman Empire used to send people into exile or imprisonment on this string of four islands. Now they are full of summer vacation homes, hiking and biking paths and narrow streets of tourist shops and ice cream vendors. Our favorite feature was that cars are not allowed and bikes are everywhere, sharing the road with horse drawn buggies driven by heavy eyebrowed Turkish men.

I was a bit nervous setting out about how my bike would handle with the load. A quick spin at the airport on our arrival had felt awkward and wobbly. I had opted for no front panniers. Would the heavy load on the back make my front wheel so light as to be unstable? I would soon find out!

The sun warmed us through hazy blue skies as we fumbled our way through buying ferry tickets, first from Kabataş to Bostancı and then on to Büyükada. Unlike in the central tourist district of Sultanahmet, full of carpet salesmen fluent in English, Patty and I had to rely more on our wits and gesturing than on our mostly non-existent knowledge of the Turkish language. I felt quite helpless staring blankly back at the blue uniformed ferry employee in Kabataş as he presumably explained what we needed to do to get to Bostancı. Unlike South America where I knew some Spanish, I had no chance of understanding a single word. Luckily, the Turkish people are very hospitable and we found plenty of friendly help despite our poor language skills.

The Bosphorous Strait is for me the heart of Istanbul. This artery of scintillating blue/green water cutting through the city divides Europe from Asia and is alive with boat traffic. White ferryboats festooned with orange life rings, the decks crowded with passengers. Small leaky wooden row boats covered in bright paint bobbing in the waves. Slick for-hire party yachts with a few sunbathing beauties and men holding drinks. And a continuous parade of freighters moving cargo from the Mediterranean into the Black Sea and back. The water looks inviting until you step to the edge and notice the oil slicks and garbage floating. Strong currents roil the surface of the water and the novice in a rental "Jeff Taxi" rowboat could quickly be in the center dancing with rusty Russian freighters if not careful! (We managed to avoid this fate the previous day, despite our rowing ineptitude.)

Our time on Büyükada was short due to our late start on the day but in the time from our 3 pm arrival and 6 pm departure on the last ferry, we managed to circle the island and visit the Greek monastery perched on the highest hill. We sweated and crept slowly up the steep cobbled track - a real test of the bikes and our legs. The ride down was a test of our braking power. I came away with most of my worries about my bike loading relieved. Patty came away worried that we'll have to climb way too many hills like that in the next months. Fortunately, the rest of the loop around the island was mostly downhill. We whizzed along the paved track past splendid water views and bunches of purple flowers. Lines of the four wheeled horse carts being spruced up with new silver paint and various other repairs signaled our imminent return to town and we arrived back at the ferry dock with time to spare.

## Part 2: Greetings from Aksaray!

Patty and I have survived the first 2 days of biking and my butt is a bit sore and my shoulders a bit tired, but the legs are fine and I figure the other parts should toughen up soon enough. There were times as I pedaled along through the nice, flat, but mostly dull, agricultural terrain between Konya and Aksaray when I found myself wondering if I REALLY wanted to tour Turkey and eastern Europe by bicycle. Maybe bussing it would have been better?

5 pm found us outside the tiny farming village of Bağötüren in a rain that could no longer be classified as "light". Three good ol' Turkish boys cruising in their closed cab Massey Ferguson tractor gave us the OK to camp by the water fountain alongside the road and I quickly pitched the tent as Patty, phrase book in hand, attempted to determine if the town had a restaurant or store. We unloaded the bikes and dove into the tent to warm up under a sleeping bag, damp and thoroughly fatigued. The nearest store was 5 km down the road and we seriously considered making our 300 grams of "emergency" peanuts into dinner. Fortunately, the rain abated within the hour and we resolved to bike on down to find the market.

Emerging from the tent and stepping out from under our dripping mulberry tree and listing willow, I spotted a man standing by a small white car in the pullout waving me over. He motioned for me to sit in the passenger seat. I declined this invite but accepted his offer of a glass of Raki - an anise flavored alcohol that seems quite popular in a country composed of Muslims who are not supposed to imbibe. A good way to end a hard day of biking! By the time Patty emerged and strolled up, I was also munching on salted peanuts had to decline a second glass of Raki as Patty sipped at hers. Finally breaking free, we mounted our bikes and pedaled off.

Past Yenice (another tiny town), we stopped at the Petrol Ofisi station with the fire breathing red dog symbol to ask where the market was. Several men and women were watching TV inside and four men came out to greet us. I can't remember exactly how the next exchange was communicated, but somehow both sides understood. They indicated the market was further down the road, but asked what we wanted. I told them just some bread, tomatoes and perhaps some cheese. He returned with a hunk of fresh bread, a pair of tomatoes and a pair of cucumbers. I asked about the cheese once more and he returned with a chunk of the Turkish feta. Time to ask the price. They gave us a surprised look and refused to let us pay, inviting us in for tea instead. With darkness coming, and no lights for the bikes, we had to decline and get back "home", pedaling away, a bit stunned by their generosity.

Passing Yenice again, a group of residents were waiting by the road and waved us to a stop, curious about what we were doing in their neighborhood. Again, plenty of head shaking and shoulder shrugging accompanied the exchange but the warm friendliness and curiosity was easy to understand. They were very interested in our bikes and, to the delight of all, several of them took short test spins, one wearing knee high rubber boots.

Munching my cheese, tomato and cucumber sandwich at the small concrete picnic table next to our tent with a warm sleeping bag waiting just steps away, I found myself feeling much more certain that bicycling Turkey and eastern Europe was going to be a wonderful experience.

Our new friends at the Petrol Ofisi station spotted us passing the next morning and just minutes after getting on the road, we were waved in for another chat. They warned us that the road was flooded before Aksaray, our destination. Not sure if we were understanding correctly, we accepted their offer for tea and worked to understand a bit better what lay before us. Lemon scented air freshener was spritzed on everyone's hands to freshen up before the tea arrived, and the scent mingling weirdly with the cigarette smoke. We took photos of everyone and then got to see Mehmet's driver's license. Eventually, we figured out the road was clear as far as Sultanhani, site of the largest caravanserai in Turkey and finally, at 11 am, we were off again.

A Caravanserai is a rest stop for caravans moving along trade routes through central Turkey. Sultanhani is a great stone fortress built by the Selcheks who ruled these parts back in the 11th century AD. Entering, you step through the high front gate into the open courtyard lined at the sides with doorways into high, dim, arched ceilinged stone rooms. You can almost picture men in turbans and camels laden with goods milling about. At the rear, another great arch leads you into the covered courtyard with great stone columns supporting the arched ceilings. After looking about, we played hackey sack with some of the local kids and then set out on the final 40-km ride to Aksaray.

The flooding was not far past Sultanhani and we had to wait briefly for the police to wave us and the line of cars they had stopped onwards. The water was not more than 6 inches deep but the real danger was avoiding being in the deeper sections as trucks throwing huge sprays of muddy red water passed. We emerged on the far side with soaked shoes and hurried into town for a hot shower and dinner.

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## **Lake Powell**

By David Hamilton

Lake Powell, down in southern Utah, was in the mid-90's to low-100's this Memorial Day Weekend. There were plenty of women wearing next to nothing. Water skiing was limited by the wind and wake. This left more time to admire the bronze goddesses. Don't wear sunscreen, as this will be the only sunburn you'll get short of wearing shorts on a glacier for us 45-degree-and-overcast-Seattle folks. Enjoy the burn and subsequent peeling and itching. Savor the heat for all it's worth. Like climbing, be safe and bring adequate protection.

## **Big Al's Big Adventure**

### **The Travels of Al Baal**

*(Editor's Note: I don't know if it was all the Dan Goering stories that finally got to Al or not, but he's decided to take an extended leave of absence from Boeing and do some globe trotting himself. He has also been kind enough to send back some of his diary entries for me to share with all of you. Enjoy, and look forward to more over the coming year...)*

#### **May 29, 2000 - The Beginning**

Just as most long trips, mine started with a long flight. I told myself beforehand that I would be more sociable with who ever I sat next to on the plane. My first flight from Seattle to Vancouver was half-empty, so I had no one to talk to. From Vancouver to Toronto I was in the middle of a tour group from Japan.

After arriving in Glasgow I had a frustrating time putting my bike together after 2 days of no sleep. I only got 11 miles out of the city when I called it a night, mainly to end a bad day which included a flat tire snagging a cable, and having to lift my bike up and over gates that were built to block motorcycles from entering the bike paths. For dinner I had can of Heize baked beans, 2 pieces of white pita bread, and one liter of Coke. My first day in Scotland has cost me 2 pound 21 pence, because I found a free place to camp.

#### **June 6, 2000 - The Dome Tent and Cockles on Barra**

Last week, just as I was drifting off to sleep, two Scottish boys (each 15 years old) awakened me by asking me if I knew how to put up a dome tent. I said "Sure, bring it on over!" I was camping in a lower income housing area, and I figured the boys had seen my tent and decided to camp too. To my surprise, they came back with just the tent. No poles, no fly, and no stakes! I told them that this wasn't enough, but when I saw their disappointed faces, I decided to improvise. With my extra rope and stakes, we were able to use some trees and bushes and set the tent up. As I was leaving for bed, I asked them about sleeping bags. They only had one blanket between the two of them. The next morning when I went to retrieve my stuff, I saw empty beer cans all around their tent. I knew then their real reason for camping.

On the 5-hour ferry from Oban to Barra, I saw a card game getting ready to start. I asked what game they were playing, and that was it. I spent the next three days with three Australians: Felicity, David and Steve; a Canadian: Chris; and an Irishman: Mic. (Boy, this sounds like the beginning of a joke!) Anyway, we had a wonderful time biking and hiking the island. I enjoyed their company at meals and the one pub crawl we did. We played hacky sack and dug up and ate raw cockles. I had no idea that you can eat cockles raw, but we did. I swear that after we ate those cockles, I had a lot more energy to bike.

#### **June 8, 2000 - Food on the Outer Hebrides**

I've been rotating my diet between peanut butter, cheese, beans, and tuna. I have been eating more bananas than ever before.

I just finished biking the Outer Hebrides. These islands (Barra, Uist, Harris, and Lewis) all have very different personalities. Barra is the smallest with only 23 total miles of road on the whole island, so biking only takes up a few hours. The ferry comes every other day, so we did other things while we waited. Besides the cockles/hacky sack adventure, we talked ourselves into going for a very short swim in the very cold ocean. The next day we hiked up the tallest peak (3,000') for a view that we soaked in for hours.

Uist is flat, unlike the other islands. This was a well-deserved change. I actually finished each day and was able to withstand the smell of my sweaty body!

Harris has St. Claments church, which we camped next to for free. The 12th century church has amazing stone crypt designs and very narrow and dark passageways up the 3-story tower. Biking the golden road was like being on the moon. The rock landscape on the eastern coast was surreal.

Lewis has rolling hills very much like home. I had the wind to my back that made the uphill even enjoyable.

All the islands share the lack of traffic and smooth roads that are just the right size for one bike and one car to pass without any fear for life.

## June 13, 2000 - Haunted Hostels

Last night my dreams were so realistic, that when I woke up I could hardly believe it was only a dream. It was then that my roommate told me that I should read the history of the Carbisdale Castle.

Of great pride to the Scottish Youth Hostels Association is the Carbisdale Castle. It has a long history of ghost appearances from before and during its time as a Youth Hostel. Here are just two of them....

### Duchess Blair

George Murray was employed in the gardens of Carbisdale and was reported to have looked up one summers day and there, standing beside a whin-bush in front of him, was the figure of a lady clad in a white dress. In less than a second she was gone. Several times that summer Murray saw the apparition and it was also seen by at least two others. Local speculation has it that this is none other than the poor Duchess Blair who did not live to see her Castle completed.

### The Battle of Carbisdale

On Saturday 27th April 1650 General James Graham, Marquis of Montrose fought his last battle defending the Royalist cause on the hill behind the Castle. The Royalist force fell into a trap and were routed, hundreds dying of their wounds and others drowning in the Kyle of Sutherland trying to make their escape. A sighting of an angry and distressed apparition carrying a sword has been reported in the link corridor of the castle. This notorious corridor of the castle where the ghost was spotted has long been considered haunted with an eerie atmosphere felt by many visitors.

The castle stands on the south bank of the Kyle of Sutherland in a prominent position on Carisdale Heights, half a mile from the village of Culrain and four miles from Ardgay.

It has housed wealthy and influential people, has been a convalescent home for British military officers and has served as a royal refuge.

It was built between 1906 and 1917 for the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, a lady with a rather colorful history...

She became known as Duchess Blair, but her marriage was very unpopular with the Sutherland family, so much so that when the Duke died in 1892 his son and heir contested his will, which was made almost totally in favor of Duchess Blair. In the ensuing legal proceedings the Duchess was found guilty of contempt of court for destroying documents and was imprisoned for six weeks in Holloway prison in London.

An agreement was reached giving her a substantial settlement. In addition the Sutherland family agreed to build a residence befitting her station, at their expense and to her specifications. Duchess Blair employed a firm of Ayrshire builders to construct the castle just over the county boundary from the Sutherlands. Work started in 1906 but was not complete until 1917.

In 1933 Colonel Theodore Salvesen, the wealthy Scottish businessman of Norwegian extraction, bought the castle. Through Colonel Salvesen's consular connections he provided King Haakon VII of Norway and Crown Prince Olav, with a safe refuge at the castle during the Nazi occupation of Norway. During that time the castle was the venue for important meetings. After Germany attacked Russia on June 22, 1941, King Haakon presided at the Carisdale Conference which led

to an agreement by the allies to ensure that Russian forces, should they enter Norwegian territory, would not remain there after the war.

After Col. Salvesen's death his son, Captain Harold Salvesen, inherited the castle and in 1945 he gifted the castle, its contents and the estate to the Scottish Youth Hostels Association.

I too, feel something mysterious about this place, and I felt that way long before I know it's history.

### June 15, 2000 - A Typical Day for Al

My good friend Karl asked me to give him an idea of a typical day for me, so here it is:

A typical day for Al Baal: I struggle to get up at 6 AM. But why not just enjoy laying in my comfortable sleeping bag with two nice pads, and finish up my wonderful dreams. On the other hand, it would be nice to get a full day of biking in. Thanks to the rain I sleep on. By 8 AM, I quickly pack and off I go. At every store I ask myself, "Do I have enough food and water? Maybe I should have a look, I can always use more bananas. Besides I do love to look and find something that would really be good!" Bingo, Avocados and Bombay mix. I can hardly wait. Afterwards, I am so drained that I have problems clipping out of my foot peddles (I've only fallen over once so far), so I know it's time to find a camp. It's not hard because in Scotland you can camp just about anywhere. I set up camp, but before I can relax, I must wash the clothes that I wore that day. The three methods of washing go like this. If plenty of water is available, then I hand wash them. If water is in short supply, then I do only the pits and the crotch of the clothes. But if there is no water to spare, I just let the wind freshen them up a bit.

Now I can relax and read, eat and sip some brandy. Then I try to write some, eat more food, read, sip some more brandy. Then, when I've had enough, I go to sleep. Good night!

### June 16, 2000 - Big Al Does Big Ben

I'm in London now, I just got back from seeing Big Ben and sitting in on the House of Lords at the Parliament. They were having a heated debate on the unification of Europe. They seemed a bit full of themselves. Then it was off to a pub with Dave my roommate from last night for a wonderful plate of Fish and Chips (probably my last for a while). Then I had fun shouting at the guards at Buckingham Palace. I think I saw one of them move. Getting around London on the subway is a good way to go.

Remember the three folks I met from Australia? Guess what, they are in London now and thanks to email, I will be meeting them tonight.

### June 21, 2000 - Airport Errors

My trip to Switzerland did not start according to plan. The London airport was totally closed down, due to the air traffic control computers being down. I spent 19 hours waiting to get a flight out of there. But not all is lost! I have gained the following from the experience:

1. I know how to use a cart full of luggage as a bumper car.
2. I know that next time I sleep at an airport, I need to pick my spot with more care.
3. The next time I see people stuck at an airport on TV, I will know what they are going through -- I will start laughing hilariously.

When I finally made it to Switzerland, my friend Luca had laid out a fantastic plan for my 2 weeks with him. We started out hiking up Gridone peak in the most perfect and clean air. Then we headed north to Burglen, the home of William Tell, and Altdorf, the place he was forced to shoot the apple from his son's head. Finally we stopped at Rutli, the signing place where Switzerland became one country.

More to come later....

# Climbing Black

(Tune of Paint it Black by The rolling Stones)

We are all climbers and our team color is Black  
You can always find us in the mountains making tracks

We wake before the dawn and break trail all day long  
And when we bag a peak you'll hear us sing our song

There's Kevin, Ginny, Rob, Eduardo, Jim and Zac  
Brent, Chris and Instructors – complete the team that's Black

We see people turn their heads and gaze longing at us  
Cause when we start to climb we leave them in our dust.

We see the Tatoosh Range and it's under attack  
One day we bagged 4 peaks - Our reputation's Black

Maybe now the other teams will just have to face the facts  
It's so easy being proud when your team color's Black

No more will my ice ax be in the downhill hand  
My only slides will be glissades that I have planned.

If we climb hard enough before the morning sun  
We'll bag our peak and be down when the evening comes

We are all climbers and our team color is Black  
You can always find us in the mountains making tracks

We wake before the dawn and break trail all day long  
And when we bag a peak you'll hear us sing our song

Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn,  
Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn,  
Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn,  
Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn,

I want to be a climbing, climbing Black – Black as night, Black is cool  
I want to see the sun – rising high in the sky  
I want to be a climbing, climbing, climbing, climbing Black – YEAH!

Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn,  
Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn, Hmmn,

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO BETH SUNDQUIST, M/S 39-PU  
OR: 7021 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW Seattle, WA 98117  
OR: beth.l.sundquist@boeing.com

**NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY**

ALPINE ECHO

***July ECHO staff***

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: Al Baal, Don Fraser,  
Ron Fleck, Dan Georing, Dave Steiner,  
David Hamilton

*Thanks for all the great write ups! If you have  
any submissions - anything vaguely  
mountaineering or outdoors related will do -  
email them to me at  
matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in  
inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices  
will work, give me a call at  
(425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

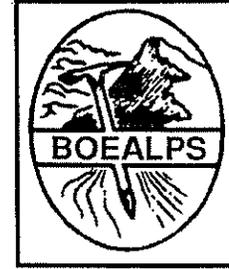


# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

August 2000

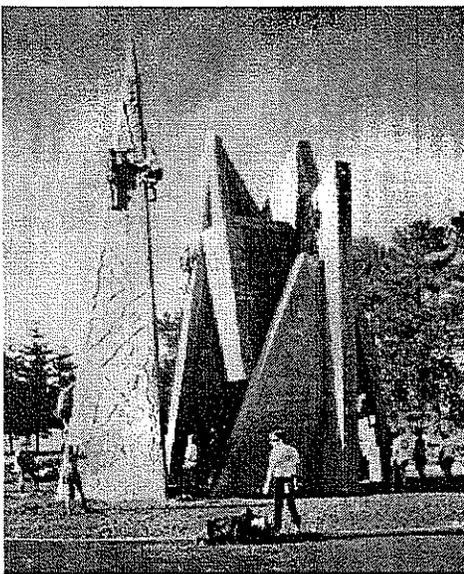


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Photo: "On the Summit of Eldorado Peak" by Troy Colyer

From Prash Bhat OK-19



## August General Meeting

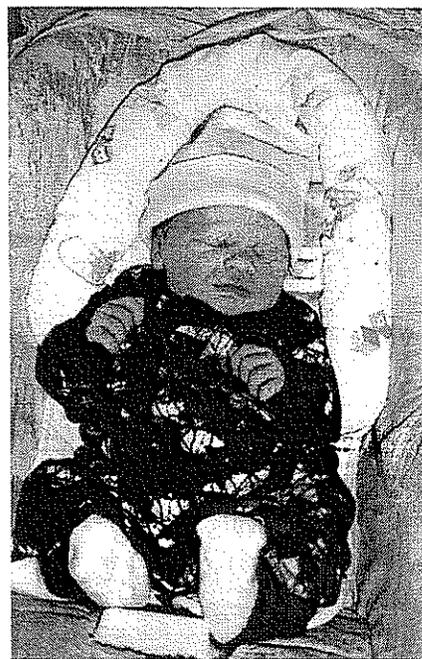
**Potluck Picnic at  
Marymoor Climbing Rock!**

**Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Marymoor Park  
After work until dark**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **Another BoBaby!**

It is with great pleasure, and not a little pride, that I introduce you to our newest BoBaby, Gavin Keith Robertson! Gavin was born to Maren and me on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:40pm. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 1 ounce, was 20 inches long, and was born with an almost full head of dark brown hair, and a very healthy appetite! The labor and delivery went very well, and the four of us have already been heading outdoors on Gavin's first adventures! You can check out more pictures of Gavin on our web site at <http://home1.gte.net/mandm>



## **Any book lovers out there?**

Our current librarians, Scott and Stacy Drum, are departing the wonderful Northwest for the wilds of Colorado, where Scott will be working on his PhD in exercise physiology at the University of Northern Colorado. We'll certainly miss Scott and Stacy, and their leaving leaves us without a librarian. If you're interested in getting just a little bit more involved with the club, here's a perfect opportunity. The responsibilities are to make sure the key to the library is present at each of the club's monthly general meetings on the first Thursday of each month (note that you don't have to be there, you just have to get the key to someone who will be), spend whatever amount is budgeted each year on acquiring new books, and to send me a list of all the books in the library once a year to run in the Echo (the database already exists – you just have to add new books to it, and email me a copy). If you're interested in helping out, please contact our Prez, Bill Harrison, at 206-662-2487 or at [william.l.harrison@boeing.com](mailto:william.l.harrison@boeing.com).

## **Photo Contest**

The winning pictures from the annual photo contest are reproduced in this issue in small, boring, black and white versions that do no justice to the spectacular shots (especially the sunrises and sunsets) they were scanned from. If you've got web access, check out the scans of the originals (rather than the copies of the reprints of the scans of the originals!) on the Boealps web site. There's a link to this year's winners, as well as the previous three year's photos at <http://www.boealps.org/newslet.html>. While turnout at this year's contest was disappointing (only 7 entrants, and about that many folks to see the pictures), the pictures themselves were quite wonderful, as usual!

## **Boealps Web Site...**

For up to the minute details, the Boealps web site at <http://www.boealps.org> is still a great place for info. Rob always gets the issue of the Echo before the print shop does, so if you're copy of the Echo hasn't arrived before the general meeting, and you'd like to see who the featured speaker is, browse on over to the web site – the info is on the front page. The password (needed for activities and the member's roster sections) is still: SLESSE

From the desk of your (sleepy) editor,

  
Matt Robertson

***September Echo deadline is August 24<sup>th</sup>***

## August, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Club picnic at Marymoor	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> New Moon Gothic Peak
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Full Moon	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Devils Peak Eldorado Maude & Seven Fingered Jack
<b>20</b> Devils Peak Eldorado Maude & Seven Fingered Jack	<b>21</b> Silver Star	<b>22</b> Silver Star	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Echo deadline	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Sloan Peak
<b>27</b> Sloan Peak Klawatti/Austera	<b>28</b> Klawatti/Austera	<b>29</b> New Moon Klawatti/Austera	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

## September, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Labor Day	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Club Elections	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Full Moon	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Sahale Peak
<b>17</b> Sahale Peak	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Echo deadline	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> New Moon	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## Programs

By Victor Yagi

### August General Meeting Program:

Come on out for the Boealps picnic at Marymoor Park in Redmond on Thursday, August 3rd. We'll congregate after work (whatever time that is for you!) at the picnic area near the parking lot by the velodrome, which is on the west side of the field next to the climbing rock. Climb on the rock, play Frisbee, ride the velodrome, or sit on your butt and eat. Bring your toys and some food to share. Bring your favorite dish or use the following guidelines:

Last name starts with:	A-H	main dish
	I-P	side dish
	Q-U	dips, and sauces
	V-Z	breads, chips, or drinks

### Upcoming Events:

#### Elections:

September 7<sup>th</sup> will be the club elections (location still to be determined). Come out for a good time, free food, and to get involved with the club. All board positions will be up for election this year, and several of the committee chairs will be open as well. There are opportunities for as little or as much involvement as you'd like – this is your chance to get more involved with the club, and to volunteer some time back to help make this club a great organization!

#### Banquet:

October 6<sup>th</sup> will be our annual banquet. We'll be holding it at the Mountaineer's clubhouse this year, and the featured speaker will be Jim Wickwire. Jim is one of the best-known Northwest climbers, with extensive Himalayan and Alaskan climbing experience. He recently wrote his autobiography, "Addicted to Danger". This is always an evening of great fun – put it on your calendar and watch for additional details in future issues of the Echo...

Victor: 425-477-4812 or yagwan@yahoo.com

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## First Sun of the New Millennium

Having recently returned from a reconnaissance trip to the summit of the first peak in Washington to see the first sunrise of a new year, Lizard is interested in organizing a return climb on New Year's Eve 2001 -- the real start date of the third millennium.

In order to preserve an element of mystery, the precise point of first light will not be revealed at this time; but rest assured the ascent, if successful, will be a noteworthy accomplishment. Prior to Lizard's Memorial Day mountain bike ascent, only 3 previous visitation dates (in 1988, 1991, 1994) were etched into the metal plate found at the summit.

Depending on snow conditions, the approach march could be as long as 12 miles with an elevation gain in excess of 5000'. The steep, grassy shoulders of the peak appear avalanche prone and the summit itself is quite exposed to the weather. Getting into position to catch those first rays of sun at 7:21:53AM will be no picnic; but the undertaking, successful or not, will be a tremendous adventure offering a fairly high potential for publicity -- if we so choose.

Negotiations are currently under way with the cattle rancher who controls access to much of the area, and I believe the chances are fairly good that we may be able to get permission to ski his private access road and perhaps even spend a night or two at his farmhouse. Near as I can tell none of the locals (nor anyone else, for that matter!) is aware of the significance of this prominent mountain.

Yes, I realize mid-summer is not the best time to talk about the dark days of winter, but early expressions of interest will help determine the feasibility of pursuing this once-in-a-thousand-year opportunity.

Lizard 425.865.3783 john.lixvar@PSS.Boeing.com

# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

## **Submit activities to**

Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs • other

## Gothic Peak (6213')

August 5

A pretty little summit above a lovely alpine lake looking across the valley to the Monte Cristo mining area. Lots of mining relics along the way, and a waterfall named "King Kong's shower bath"!

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Standard route; Class 2-3  
**Equipment** Standard scramble gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** James Schalla, 425-294-0306, james.p.schalla@boeing.com

## Devils Peak (5455')

August 19-20

For those of you who were denied the summit in the Basic Class, here's your chance to stand on top without having to worry about snow conditions

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Southeast route, Grade I, Class 4  
**Equipment** Standard climbing equipment and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** David Hamilton, dhamilton@museumofflight.org, 206-297-7353

## Mt. Maude (9040') and Seven Fingred Jack (9100')

August 19-20

Two of the Cascade's Big Boys! Call the trip leader for route details.

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Call trip leader  
**Equipment** Standard overnight gear, technical gear depends on route  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Jerry and Kathy Baillie, 206-283-6870, jandkbaillie@home.com

## Talapus Lake

August 19

BoBabys go swimming! Last year we did this trip in September and it was just a tad chilly (for the adults anyway, the kids didn't seem to mind!), so this year we'll go when the water is hopefully warmer. Hike an easy 2 miles to a pretty little alpine lake under the east side of Bandera Mountain. Toddlers may be able to walk, but the trail is not stroller friendly.

**Party Limit** 8 toddlers and their support adults  
**Equipment** Swim diapers, towels, changes of clothes  
**Experience** It will be one!  
**Contact** Matt Robertson, matt.robertson@boeing.com, 425-957-5691(w), 425-822-0455(h)

## Eldorado Peak (8868')

August 19-20

A strenuous approach to a stunning summit ridge, with awesome views of the North Cascades

**Party Limit** 6  
**Route** Eldorado Glacier, Grade II  
**Equipment** Standard glacier and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Brian Tryba, rockmobster@hotmail.com

**Silver Star (8876')****August 21-22 or August 26-27**

Look down on Liberty Bell and Washington Pass from the highest peak in the area

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** South route, Grade I, Class 3 or 4  
**Equipment** Standard climbing equipment and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Glenn Tomchik, glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com, 206-544-7580

**Sloan Peak (7835')****August 26-27**

A great route on the "Matterhorn of the Cascades", and the highest summit west of Glacier Peak

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Corkscrew route (south face and upper west face), Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard glacier and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Ilan Angwin, iangwin@hotmail.com, 206-729-0640

**Klawatti Peak (8485') and Austera Peak (8334')****August 27-29**

Take a three-day trip into the heart of the North Cascades with the Baillies. Call trip leader for route details

**Party Limit** 10  
**Route** Call trip leader  
**Equipment** Standard overnight gear, technical gear depends on route  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Jerry and Kathy Baillie, 206-283-6870, jandkbaillie@home.com

**Sahale Peak (8680')****September 16-17**

One of the most beautiful viewpoints in the North Cascades via the spectacular Boston Basin.

**Party Limit** 8  
**Route** Qien Sabe Glacier, Grade I, Class 3  
**Equipment** Standard glacier and overnight gear  
**Experience** Basic Class grad or equivalent  
**Contact** Tom Ryan, tom-p.ryan@frco.com, 425-487-8706(w), 206-527-2724(h)

**Submit activities to: Ilan Angwin**  
**206-729-0640**  
**iangwin@hotmail.com**

## *Pre-Trip Report*

Who: Scott and Stacy Drum

What: Moving from Seattle to Greeley, CO

Why: Scott is attending Graduate School at the U. of Northern Colorado (UNC)

When: Driving away on July 26 (school begins Aug. 28)

Stacy and I wanted to let all of you Boealpers know that we're moving. We'll desperately miss the people we met, the friends we made, the trips we completed and the continued climbing experiences we've had while a part of your group! We definitely learned "the ropes" of climbing during the basic climbing course and moreover I had a great introductory experience to teaching basic students this past spring. I hope to somehow continue helping young climbers while a part of the University setting in Greeley.

To give you a bit of perspective as to why we're moving, I'll mention that it's my fault! For the past few years I've been contemplating a return to academia for a doctorate degree in Exercise Physiology. This past spring my application to UNC's School of Kinesiology and Physical Education was accepted (probably because I enclosed \$5000 cash in neat \$100 increments.....). And to say the least, I chose UNC because of its proximity to great "quality of life" endeavors, not to mention its worthy academics.

Lastly, what do I hope to gain out of this? Well, hopefully, a college teaching position somewhere back in the Northwest (after 3-4 years in Greeley). Overall, I envision doing more teaching than research and also foresee involvement in coaching cross country running and/or track distance runners.

Again, thank you all for your "words of wisdom," climbing expertise and abundant enthusiasm for the outdoors!! We plan to continue our climbing pursuits and see ourselves doing a bit more rock climbing in Colorado, especially while practicing on UNC's indoor climbing wall.

We hope you will keep in touch with us through mail or e-mail, etc. and want to formally invite you to make a basecamp in Greeley—just drop us a note if you'll be in the area!!

Our Colorado address is (note: we're renting a two bedroom house with a huge yard near campus, so there's plenty of room to "house" guests):

Scott and Stacy Drum  
2418 17 Ave.  
Greeley, CO 80631

(970) 392-9965  
e-mail: sndrum@hotmail.com

So long! -- Scott and Stacy

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## **Van for Sale**

Hi! I'm the proud owner of Dan Goering's famous globe trotting Astro Van. I bought it from him last year, in between the USA and South American legs of his tour. My wife (Steph Young) and I then did a tour of the US ourselves for three months.

We are now ready to sell the van - here are the details:

1990 Chevy Astro. All Wheel Drive, V6 Engine. 108K miles. A/C, Anti-Lock brakes. New brake pads & shoes. New alternator, battery and starter. New tires. \$5500 OBO. Call Paul or Steph 206 568 0371.

(Maybe it would be a good Acura replacement for Len Kanappel ??)

## 2000 Photo Competition

Well, the competition was definitely NOT fierce this year, with only 7 entrants supplying all of the slides and prints. Several categories had no entries at all, and many of the categories didn't have enough entries to allow for a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize to be awarded. While the quantity of entries was disappointing, the quality of the entries was wonderful. Unfortunately, there also was quite a small audience of onlookers to appreciate the photographic efforts displayed. I hope that next year's event will be a little better attended, and have better participation. That said, here are the results, and the winning pictures...make sure you check out the Boealps web site to see the pictures in all their glorious color – the black and white reproductions (even of the black and white photos) here don't do them justice! (Note: Rich Humbert's slides were shot in medium format, and I wasn't able to get them scanned.)

### Mountain Scenes

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

Anastasia Dunn; Middle Sister, Oregon and painted rock

Bill Frans; Morning glow on Fitzroy

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

Anastasia Dunn; Middle and North Sister, Oregon

Rich Humbert

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Mount Daniel

### Prints

### Slides

### Climbing

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

Michael Anderson; Windless Windy Corner, Denali

Bill Frans; North Ridge of Mount Baker

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; East Wilmans Spire

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Denali

### Nature Scenes

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Patagonian moonscape

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

No entry

Rich Humbert

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

No entry

Len Kannapell; Got Milk?

### People

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Skiing the north face of Shuksan

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Dwarfed by Foraker

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

No entry

No entry

### Sunsets & Sunrises

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Sunset on Shuksan

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

No entry

Bill Frans; Patagonian Sunrise

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

No entry

No entry

### Climbing Class

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

Lois Soncrant; Mt. Baker

No entry

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

No entry

No entry

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

No entry

No entry

### Most Embarrassing

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

Anastasia Dunn; Plum Fierce

Len Kannapell; Are you experienced?

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

Michael Anderson: Tentbound on Denali

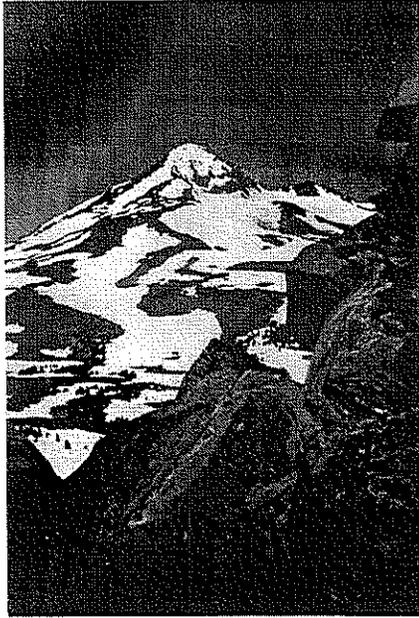
Vera Trainer; Will he fit in a backpack?

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

Anastasia Dunn: He can't deny it now!

Bill Frans; Duct tape and tent pegs – that'll fix anything!

## Mountain Scenes, Prints

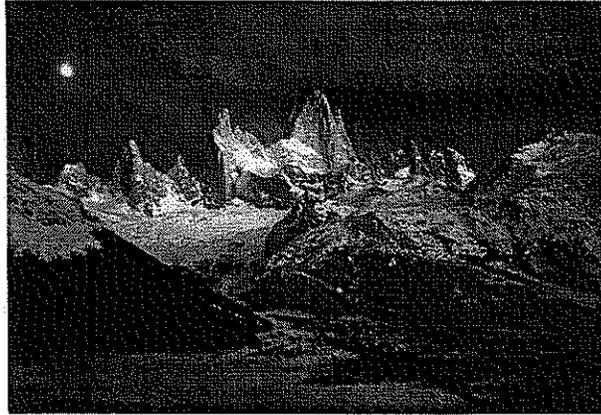


1<sup>st</sup> place: "Middle Sister, Oregon and painted rock"  
by Anastasia Dunn

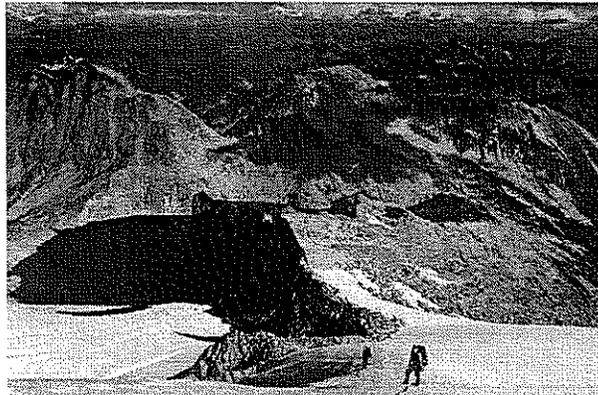


2<sup>nd</sup> place: "Middle and North Sisters, Oregon" by  
Anastasia Dunn

## Mountain Scenes, Slides



1<sup>st</sup> place: "Morning Glow on Fitzroy" by Bill Frans



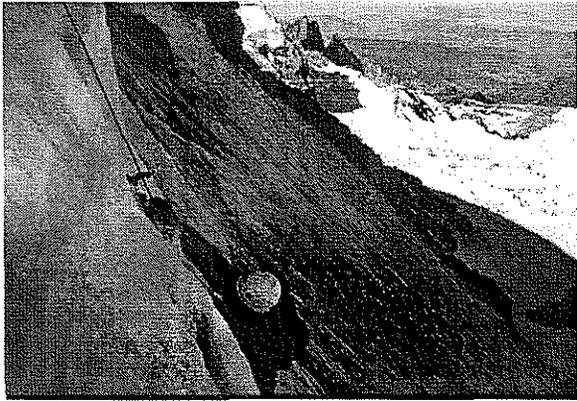
3<sup>rd</sup> place: "Mount Daniel and Pea Soup Lake" by Bill Frans

## Climbing Scenes, Prints

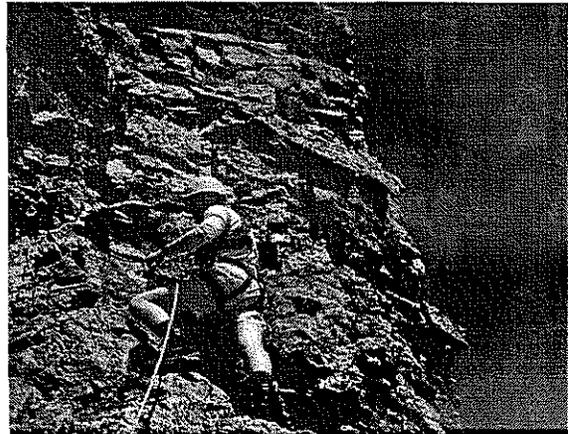


1<sup>st</sup> place: "Windless Windy Corner, Denali" by Michael Anderson

## Climbing Scenes, Slides



1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Climbing the North Ridge of Mount Baker" by Bill Frans



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: "East Wilmans Spire" by Bill Frans  
Climber: Eric Vetter



3rd Place: "Skiing up to 14,000', Denail"  
by Bill Frans

## Nature Scenes, Slides



1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Patagonian Moonscape" by Bill Frans



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: "Got Milk?" by Len Kannapell

## People Scenes, Slides

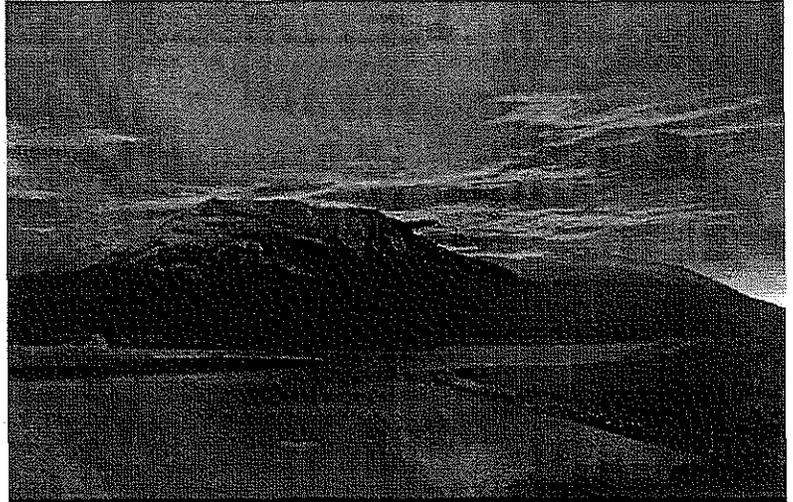


1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Skiing the North Face of Shuksan" by Bill Frans  
Skier: Sam Avaiusini

## Sunrises & Sunsets, Slides



1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Sunset on Shuksan" by Bill Frans



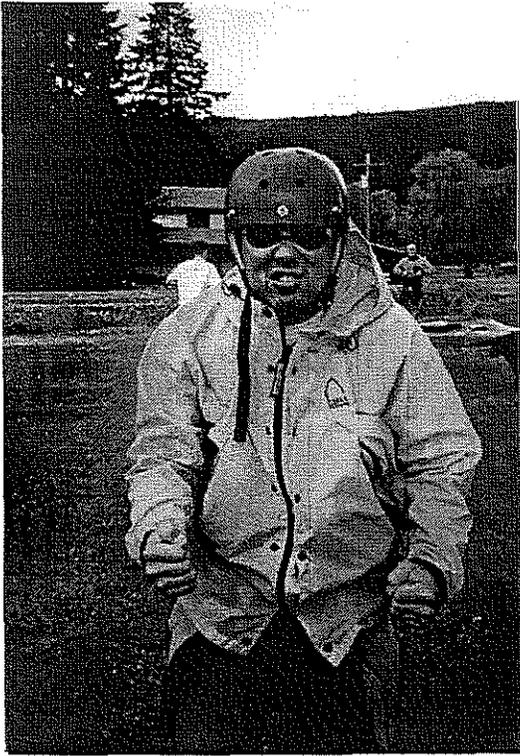
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: "Patagonian Sunrise" by Bill Frans

## Boealps Class Pictures, Prints



1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Mount Baker" by Lois Soncrant

## Most Embarrassing, Prints



1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Plum Fierce" by Anastasia Dunn  
"Fierce" Rafter: Victor Yagi



2nd Place: "Tentbound on Denali" by Michael Anderson

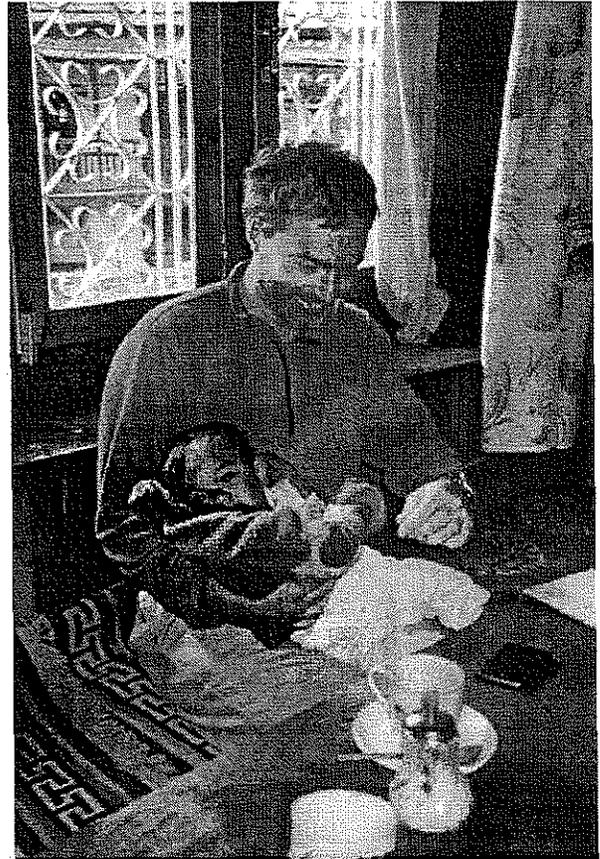


3rd Place: "He Can't Deny It Now!" by Anastasia Dunn  
Rainier "beer" drinker: Len Kannapell

## Most Embarrassing, Slides



1<sup>st</sup> Place: "Are You Experienced?" by Len Kannapell



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: "Will He Fit in a Backpack?" by Vera Trainer  
Practice parent: Sean Paré



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: "Duct Tape and Tent Pegs Can Fix Anything!" by Bill Frans

## Childbirth, Induction Variation (IV, 5.11a, A3) July 14, 2000

Matt and Maren Robertson

It's amazing how climbing some routes can be such a life altering experience. I'm not talking about some difficult route at the local crag - red pointing Godzilla at Index certainly comes with bragging rights, but I'm talking about those intense, Grade IV, all-committing climbs that cause you to examine your inner self, to question your true motivations, and to place complete and utter confidence in your climbing partners. Three and a half years ago Maren and I had just such an experience when we did this route for the first time (click here for that trip report) - our lives have never been quite the same since. However, sometimes once is just not enough, and about a year and a half ago we started talking about maybe doing the route again. We knew a bit more about what we were getting ourselves into this time, and so we pondered the decision carefully, making lists of the positives and negatives. Before long, the positive list far outstripped the negative, and about nine months ago we committed ourselves once more to Childbirth.

Based on the wonderful experience we had had last time, we again retained the services of Dr. Isbell as our guide. We have done a fair amount of climbing in the last three and a half years, but we still felt unprepared to attempt a route of this seriousness alone. We again allowed about nine months for a training regimen, which would this time position us for an early to mid-July attempt on the route. Knowing that the conditions would be completely different than last time, which was a mid-December climb, we relied on the wisdom and guidance Dr. Isbell could give us regarding when the optimum time for our attempt should be. Based on his years of experience, he thought July 8th would be the date we should shoot for if we wanted to do the normal start, and we were all surprised when Maren started thinking she might be ready to start the route almost a week and a half earlier than this. Although we all could agree that Maren's abs were in fine shape and ready to take on the climb, Maren wasn't able to maintain her motivation for more than about 2 hours at a time, so we decided to continue to wait. The July 8th date came and went, and still everything wasn't in perfect condition. At this point, Dr. Isbell broached the idea of using an aid variation to the start, as we did last time, since he felt like everything else was in peak condition now, and things may start becoming more difficult if we delayed much longer. If aiding through the first crux was what it was going to take to get on route, then Maren and I decided we would again start the climb using the Induction variation.

Avoiding an alpine start, we arrived at the base of the route (Evergreen Hospital, Kirkland, Washington) a little after 7:00 on the morning of July 14. Once again, Maren insisted on leading every pitch. This was probably appropriate since even though I'm a confirmed gear head, this is one climb where I am woefully unequipped to lead. I knew my main responsibilities were to provide a tight belay, and plenty of encouragement. Once we were on route, Maren's previous experience on this climb started to shine through. Although I'm certain the climb hasn't gotten any easier, the speed and facility which Maren demonstrated on the early pitches of the climb astounded me. Maren led out on the first pitch shortly before 8:00, and although this section had taken us six and a half hours last time, by 10:30 we were already facing the first crux. Since the last climb, Maren and I had talked to some close friends who had actually done this next section free, but their descriptions only served to reinforce Maren's belief that for her, aiding through this crux again using an epidural was the correct choice. I have to agree, because once the aid was applied, this crux flew by almost effortlessly - Maren's conditioning was really paying off now! Although each move was certainly as difficult as it had been the last time we had done this climb, the rate we progressed, and the facility with which Maren met each new move was truly astounding. This is not to say that Maren wasn't working hard - the concentration on her face, and the energy she was expending made it obvious that she was leading near her limit.

Up until this point, Dr. Isbell's assistant guides were accompanying us, but as Maren completed each succeeding pitch more quickly than the previous, they decided it was time for Dr. Isbell to rejoin us. A little after 1:00 he rejoined our team, and none too early! I think Maren was moving through things a bit more quickly than he was expecting, but none the less he was present and ready to help her when she reached the

final crux. Stronger and more experienced this time, Maren needed no further aid to complete the crux, and at 1:40 pm our newest climber, Gavin Keith Robertson, joined us. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. He was already short roped to Maren, but Dr. Isbell determined that the remainder of the climb would proceed more quickly if we third classed things, and suggested that we disconnect Maren and Gavin. Not wanting to take the time to untie him Dr. Isbell suggested I simply cut his rope, and that done, we were on our way. Not having any previous climbing experience, Gavin was a bit overwhelmed with just about everything, but Maren came through again, giving him just the reassurance he seemed to need, and providing him with exactly the snack he seemed to crave. The final section of climbing last time had featured some tricky aid moves that Dr. Isbell performed - this time, however, Maren freed the final pitch, and before we knew it, Maren, Gavin and I had topped out and were celebrating!

Not long after reaching the summit, Bryden, the climber we had met under similar circumstances on this route three and a half years ago, joined our little group to be introduced to Gavin. I'm still not sure if it was Gavin's size, or his complete lack of teeth that impressed Bryden most, but the two of them seemed to hit it off immediately, and I'm guessing they're going to be spending a lot of time together in the future. A 24 hour final crux to car time is pretty standard for this route these days, but with as well as Maren and Gavin did we were able to better that time by almost an hour, and actually stopped in at a small celebration being thrown in Gavin's honor on our way home on Saturday.

A route like this certainly isn't for everyone, but for those so inclined, it is an awe inspiring experience like no other I've even known. I am still stunned by Maren's physical capabilities, and for any of you hardcore men out there who think you're tough - this route has yet to see its first male lead!

Postscript:

Gavin has demonstrated a rather remarkable appetite. Unfortunately this is coupled with a very small holding capacity. This has resulted in his demanding (yes, he can already demand) to be fed about every two hours, resulting in Maren and I again becoming part of some sort of sleep deprivation experiment. Other than that, we are all doing wonderfully!



Bryden meeting his new baby brother

## Vesper Peak July 8, 2000

Climbers: Zac Imboden (scribe), Kathy Hibachi, Lynda Tanagi, Vera Trainer, Ron Stephenson, Ron Fleck, Connie Greenwood, Haldis Baty, Thomas Glasenapp, Hao Chen

Directions: Access to Vesper Peak is located off the Mountain Loop Hwy (Hwy 92), not many miles from the still picturesque town of Granite Falls. Follow it past all the usual suspects (Three Fingers turn-off, Pilchuck turn-off, Red Bridge Campground). Less than a mile past the entrance to Big Four Ice Caves, turn right onto Sunrise Mine Road, which is marked. Follow road to end (good condition). The trail keeps going from where the road stops.

Time: 3-4 hours up; 3 hours back; add 30 minutes for each additional person beyond 2.

The Vesper trip was an educational experience. In fact, it felt more like a bonus class outing for the Basic Mountaineering course, mainly because we had so many instructors along, but also because they jumped into action when things got tough as you shall see.

We met at Ike's for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. A description of the excellent victuals would be beyond the scope of this report. We made it to the trailhead around 9:30 a.m. Everyone was in good spirits, despite the perpetually gloomy overcast of that region. The air was a bit chilly, and crossing the Stilliguamish River and several of its tributaries was even chillier. We had to help several members across on a network of logs and stones. We stopped after the crossing to switch from sandals to our hiking boots. Gummi worms and other candy was exchanged.

The trail winds south and upwards into a large valley of Douglas Fir and Cedar and then Mountain Hemlock, until the trees give out to the remains of a glacial till. There was still snow on the ground at this point. We followed the belly of the valley after the trail had disappeared and wound our way up into its head until we were hemmed in by sheer cliffs with impressive spires on our left. Vera and I led the way. Ron Fleck, in training for some distant Oriental Peak, brought up the rear with his usual barn-sized pack. While we debated over which of two gullies running up to our right was the correct way to Headlee Pass, a sense of dread fell over the party. Just then a shadow fell over us from the sky. A dreaded Nazgul, perhaps, speeding away to the north of some fell mission from the Dark Lord. Here also, Vera gave quick lessons in ice axe arrest to my hiking friend with little mountaineering experience.

We chose the first of the two gullies and step-kicked up steep snow until we reached rocks, which we clambered over to gain the crest of the ridge without too much difficulty. Here we could momentarily see our goal, swathed partially in hurrying clouds, which settled in and created a fog for most of our remaining ascent. The ridge fell away to a steep drainage to the south. Looming above us to the right and north, the ugly, rotten rock of Sperry watched us.

We stopped to eat lunch and marvel that it was already 1:30 p.m.. Our time had been slower than we thought! At Ron Fleck's prompted, we decided that we should turn around no later than 3 p.m.. Here we had sandwiches, and more gummi worms.

At right angles to our ridge, the two peaks shared a common basin, which, as we made our way over a neatly mounded skirt of large-sized scree, revealed a frozen lake. Beyond it to the north, an even higher ridge formed the lip of a large bowl containing the smaller bowl of the lake.

From the lower south rim of the lake, our journey reached the final phase, a long straight line of step-kicking up to Vesper's clouded summit. I had to call back my more inexperienced friend from the head of the line, so that he would not unwittingly walk over a cornice. The fog began to break and when we scrambled onto the summit rocks scoured free of snow by perpetual winds, we were rewarded with tantalizing momentary glimpses of surrounding peaks, as handfuls of ragged clouds sped past us high and low. It was now around 2:45 p.m. The summit was tiny, and the west side fell off into a sheer cliff, the bottom of which was shrouded in more clouds. We sat on top and ate again, sharing cheese and apples and Ron's surprise treat, strawberries, nicely sliced in a Tupperware bowl.

Two men rounded the summit from the south, and there was some apparent intrigue, because Vera knew one of the men's current girlfriend, etc, etc. They were very friendly.

Our trip turned sour on descent. We lost our way and Ron set up a fixed line for my inexperienced friend and a few others who were uncomfortable plunge-stepping down the steep snow slope. We wound up descending into the lake basin and traversing inside its southern rim, below where we had more easily ascended on the flat snow above.

Eventually we returned over the neat mound of scree to the first ridge and came back down through the second of the two gullies we had seen on ascent. This second gully turned out to be Headlee Pass proper, as there was a nice wooden sign nailed to a wizened hemlock tree. Here things grew more difficult, as the gully was steep. Again, Ron set up a fixed line, this time aided by the rest of the instructors, Vera and Kathy. Precious minutes passed, and it was not until after 7 p.m. that the last instructor was down. By this point, the snow had become icy and we nervously watched Ron and Kathy descend without the aid of the fixed line they had set up for us.

Thankfully, no one was hurt, although I was not through with icy encounters. We filed out of the valley without further incident, and after changing into dry clothes at the trailhead, we drove back up the Mountain Loop Highway to mandatory dinner at the atmospheric Mt. View Inn. Kathy had her long anticipated chicken fried steak. I unwisely chose fried chicken, which to my horror, turned out to still be frozen in the middle! After hearing Kathy and Lynda's story about the scary cook, I finally worked up the courage to alert the waitress. Not only did the cook fry me an entire plate of more chicken, he came out and shook my hand as we left and apologized profusely.

Such was the trip. I am deeply indebted to Ron and the other instructors for their help on this, my first lead of a BoeAlps trip.

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## **Flapjack Lakes, Olympic National Park July 1-2**

16 miles round trip to lakes. Trail is the twin sister to Mt. Si's trail in both appearance and grade. The evil twin if you haven't been hiking much. The lakes were spectacular. Views of Mt. Cruiser and the other rocks. There are 9 different camping areas, some allow groups of tents, with a maximum of 30 people camping out up there. The Park Ranger is camped out there for the summer so be sure you have paid the appropriate fees, a simple task that is well worth it. There are several bear wires and one outhouse. Virtually mosquito free. The trail to Gladys Divide needs maintenance, the views there are nice with snow travel approaching, and on, the divide. The trail to Black and White Lakes has quite a few fallen trees to go over/under.

## **Found Lake-Kindy Ridge July 8-9**

Okay folks, perhaps adding a hand saw to your car's trunk wouldn't be a bad idea. We drove down Road 1570 only to come upon a couple of trees over the road. No biggie, we hike the two miles to the trailhead. But there was a car parked at the trailhead which meant, unless they had a saw, they were SOL if they wanted to drive out. As it happens, a desperate fisherman cleared the road. The trail up is hardly traveled and does nothing but go up. Keep a keen eye on the trail as it is hardly used. The shortest distance between two points is straight and so the trail goes straight on up. How steep it is/was becomes apparent on your way down. Prior to reaching the saddle the trail disappears, the snow travel begins (ice axe recommended) and you're on your own. The mountain top above Found Lake (Green Trails map shows it as 5560 ft) has nice views on the south side with snow-free areas to pitch your tent. Beware the potentially fatal bottomless cracks. Either fill up with water at the saddle and below or melt snow if you camp on the mountain top. Nice views of Storm King Mountain, a very attractive peak, and surrounding peaks, valleys and ranges. Bring your shotgun as the mosquitoes are quite vicious.

-- David Hamilton, scribe

## **Olympus, or "Now I Never Have To Hike The Hoh Again!"**

By Mike Garrison

It all started with Tom Ryan's simple request for people interested in climbing Olympus. Stupidly, I was interested.

We ended up having 10 people in our party, though it was really more like four loosely associated separate parties. There was Tom and his fiancée, plus Tom and his wife, also Tom and Marybeth, also Eric and Mary, and finally Toby and I (and no, even with the enforced intimacy of the trip Toby and I are not a couple). The number of Toms was exceeded only by the number of variations of bad "Hoh" jokes.

After exchanging perhaps three dozen emails about who was riding with whom, and who was bringing what gear, we eventually agreed to meet at the Hoh Visitor Center at 9 on Saturday morning (July 1).

I convinced Toby to come by my house and pick me up Friday night, before driving around south through Olympia. Everyone else took the ferry, and I am still certain that our trip times were at least an hour shorter than anyone else's.

We stopped for dinner in Aberdeen. At first we were going to settle for Pizza Hut, but across the alley from the Pizza Hut was a little shack called El Paisano Taqueria (709 1/2 W. Market St.). Score! This place is seriously tasty, with nothing on the menu more than \$3.99. We were the only Anglo customers there, another good sign. I suggest trying the torta.

When we got to the park we camped in the Hoh campground. \$10, unless you pack up your stuff and get out early enough to beat the ranger's morning walkaround (we didn't). There were mosquitoes here than anywhere else on the entire trip.

\$25 bought us a permit for the trip, and we were off. I did ask the rangers about conditions on the mountain (they didn't know) and whether we needed a snow shovel to dig campsites at Glacier Meadows (they said yes, causing me to haul a unneeded snow shovel the entire way -- grrrr).

I soon discovered what this trip was going to be like. My boots are fairly new, and this is the first time I had worn them with a heavy pack. I developed a blister.

The Hoh trail is long and flat. We gained about 400 feet net between the trailhead and our first campsite 11 miles in at Lewis Meadows. There was probably 1000 feet of gross gain, though, since the trail does climb away from the river in places.

I was dead tired when I finally stumbled into Lewis Meadows and found Toby already sleeping in our tent. My feet hurt. I was hot and sweaty. The scenery had been nice but extremely unvarying. Not my favorite day on a trail.

The main campsites all have bear wires for hanging your food, so we didn't have to bring along a bear-resistant container, although those are required for most Olympic backcountry trips now.

The next day was shorter (about 7 miles), but featured 3400 of elevation gain and steadily deteriorating trail conditions. Once again, I was pretty miserable the entire day. Once again I was dead tired when I stumbled into camp. Once again I found Toby already sleeping in our tent.

The schedule was for us to climb the mountain on the third day, and then hike out more than 8 miles before camping again. I knew this would be impossible for me, and I wasn't feeling well or strong, so I reluctantly told the others that I wouldn't be climbing in the morning.

Then I took a solitary walk over to the start of the route up the Blue Glacier moraine. Some soul searching (and an assurance from Toby that he wouldn't insist on hiking out all eight miles the next day) made me change my mind. Maybe I was tired, maybe it was stupid, but I had come all this way to climb the mountain -- I couldn't just turn back at the foot of the glacier.

So at 3 am on Monday, I got up with everyone else (except Tom's wife and Tom's fiancée, who had never planned on making the climb). We had heard 10-12 hours round trip from base camp, so we wanted to leave by 4. We started out a bit after that, perhaps 4:20 am. Headlamps were needed in the trees, but not in the open.

With a summit pack instead of an overnight pack all the day trips I have been doing finally paid off. Toby and I were the first two to top out on the moraine. It became clear that the group was widely scattered in terms of speed and strength. We settled on two rope teams -- Tom, Marybeth, Toby, and me; and Tom, Tom, Eric, and Mary. My team was ready to go sooner, so we took the pro and headed out. I had brought my four radios (one for each team, one for the women back in camp, and one spare in case we decided to drop anyone anywhere).

We set out across the Blue Glacier. Many crevasses were open, but easy to step across. The snow was still crampon hard. The boot trail was fairly obvious.

Once across the glacier we started up a steeper snow section, finally reaching the top of the "snow dome" (which is not a dome but looks like one from the Blue). Here we took off our crampons (except for Toby, who wasn't balling up). Up to this point Toby had led -- now we swapped ends and I led.

Again it was simply a matter of following the boot tracks, winding through crevasses (some big enough to swallow cars) and up to a pass in Five Finger Ridge. The snow was firmer here, and looked steeper, so we put our crampons back on. This turned out to be not required, although it didn't really hurt either.

On we went, until we headed up a steep snow slope angling towards a rocky high point. The altimeter read 7900 feet -- was it the summit?! ... No, a false summit. In fact, it was a pass leading to a steep snow/rock/ice gully going down about 100 feet. From there we could see the true summit.

Marybeth decided she had come far enough, but Toby, Tom, and I headed down the gully and over to the final snow pitch. This seemed like a good place to unrope (which we did) and to take off our crampons (which I did, though not Tom and Toby). There was a party of four on its way out, plus a party of three just ahead of us and a party of two just behind us.

The party of three decided to climb directly up the face of the rock from the northwestern snow ridge. This involved stepping onto the rock across a three or four-foot moat. Dicy looking.

The party of two looked around on the west side and found a class 2 route that went almost up to the top. Then they free-soloed some class 5 stuff and topped out.

We ended up not doing the lead at all, since we were able to hop onto the top rope of the party of three. So we also stepped across the moat and climbed the easy class 5 face.

Supposedly there is a class 3 route, but none of us found anything that we would describe as such. The guidebook says it is on the east side, though, and I don't think we traversed over that direction to check it out.

The summit was (of course) in a cloud, so we couldn't see anything. Not even the other Olympus peaks. But we signed the register, made more "Hoh" jokes, and chatted with our new-found friends. Then we set up a rappel down the route the party of two had soloed, and all eight of us rappelled down.

Funny how different things seem scary to different people -- I would have been terrified to make the lead climb, but the guys who did very cautiously descended the steep snow ridge, while I took one look at the safe runout and hopped into a full-speed-ahead glissade.

Then we climbed back up to the notch where Marybeth awaited. Just about that time (2pm or so), Tom/Tom/Eric/Mary showed up. Tom and Tom decided to go for the summit, while Eric and Mary turned back. We had brought an extra rope, so Toby joined Eric and Mary while I went down with Tom and Marybeth.

The trip back was pretty easy, with some glissading possible on the (non-glacier) snow slopes between the Snow Dome and the Blue Glacier. After crossing the Blue and climbing back to the top of the moraine I checked with Tom and Tom on the radio. They were just descending from the summit (about 4:30 pm). They had climbed the route we had rapped.

I got back into camp about 5 pm, broke out the stove, and started dinner. Toby and I had agreed to try for the Hoh bridge, about 13 miles from the trailhead (four miles from Glacier Meadows). Since Toby was quicker than me, I tried to get as much head start as I could.

The Toms were descending Snow Dome as I broke camp, but their partners had hiked out earlier in the day and were awaiting them at Olympus Guard Station (8 miles away). Tom and Marybeth headed out with me, intending to go about a half mile farther than Toby and I were planning. Mary and Eric stayed at Glacier Meadows.

Toby, Tom, Marybeth, and I finally got to the 13.3 mile camp at the Hoh bridge around 8:00. Toby and I camped, Tom and Marybeth went on to the campsite at 12.7. Sometime while we snored, the two Toms passed us by, eventually making it to Olympus Guard Station about 2 in the morning.

Next day Toby and I packed up and headed out. 13.3 miles. With full packs. After all the hiking we had just done. Agony.

We passed Tom and Marybeth, who seemed to be still asleep. About 11 am we wandered into Olympus Guard Station, where we discovered that Tom and Tom had made it out. They were, of course, just making breakfast. I picked up my remaining two radios and we headed out again.

[Eric and Mary actually hiked out the entire way from Glacier Meadows this day, but Toby and I only discovered this later. And I thought 13.3 miles was tough!]

Finally, around 2:45 pm on the Fourth of July, Toby and I staggered into the Hoh River Visitor Center parking lot. Fortunately for his continued existence I did not encounter the ranger who had advised me to take the snow shovel...

An hour at the visitor center (toilets! soap! cotton!) and we were headed home. Me: "I wonder if that Mexican place will be open on the Fourth of July." Toby: "They are more likely to be closed on Cinco de Mayo." They were open. Ah!!!

I finally got home about 7:30 pm. Toby dropped me off and headed back to his place for some serious showering before his not-girlfriend-although-she-meets-all-the-qualifications K2 dropped by. I too headed for the showers, although I had to settle for a soak in the hot tub and a Mariners game on TV as my welcome home.

The bed felt soft that night, I can tell you that...

## Fulfilling My Civic Duty (Swank v Duffy/Chouinard)

by Dave Creeden

In early April I received a jury summons for Superior Court of Snohomish County. I've lived in this area all my life and this was the first jury summons I had ever received. The summons mentioned that jury duty would be for one case or one week. My work colleagues warned me about the whole legal process, along with what to say if I wanted to be dismissed or what not to say to increase my odds of being selected. Despite these warnings and advice, I eagerly anticipated fulfilling my civic duty.

A couple of hours on the morning of Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> were spent explaining the jury selection process, along with the assigning of people into jury pools. Each individual was randomly assigned a number, by merely drawing their name out of a hat. My number was 27 out of a jury pool of 38 people. As we were herded into Superior Courtroom #8, I reckoned the odds of my selection as a juror on this case was remote. But it probably wasn't going to be an interesting case anyway. Jurors with the numbers 1 through 12 were seated in the jury box on the right side of the courtroom, while the rest of us occupied seats in the spectator section.

There were two large tables in front of Judge's bench, occupied by two lawyers for both the Plaintiff and the Defendant. Next to each table sat a concerned looking man. After waiting in silence for several minutes the Court Clerk entered the courtroom and announced the entrance of the judge. After some preliminaries, the judge briefly explained what the case was about. This was Civil case (meaning the jurors just had to reach a majority decision-not a unanimous decision) pending from 1987. There was an audible gasp from the jury pool after the judge mentioned the date. Furthermore, a Snohomish County Sheriff by the name of Dwayne Swank, was suing an Everett Policemen and Search and Rescue instructor by the name of Jim Duffy. The Chouinard Company was also a defendant. The case involved Swank falling out of a Chouinard harness while rappelling from helicopter during a Snohomish County Search & Rescue training exercise.

As the judge explained the case, I snapped to attention then cursed my high jury number. I quickly tried to remember the advice from my cynical work colleagues about how to act stupid in order to increase my odds of being selected as a juror. I decided to go into my Sargent Schultz routine of "I know nothing". During the next hour-or-so, the judge questioned of the jury pool. Basically he was trying to determine if there was anyone in the jury pool who knew someone involved in the case or harbored any deep biases or prejudices which would prevent them from serving as an impartial juror. Early on during the questioning the judge mentioned that the case could last up to two weeks. Numerous people in the jury pool had major heartburn about serving that long and complained to the judge. At one point juror #3 voiced his displeasure over having to serve so long. I had to restrain myself from offering him a swap of juror numbers. "Hey juror #3! I'll swap you my number for *Park Place* and *Boardwalk*. No? How about if I throw in a "Get out of Jail Free" card too?"

During this period of questioning, there were a couple of questions that I could have answered affirmative too, but I took the strict legal approach on the wording of the questions, so I didn't raise my hand. All the time I kept wondering if the judge was going to ask if there are any climbers in the jury pool or if anyone had a relative or friend who climbed. Sure enough he soon popped the question, so I raised my right hand. The judge immediately focused in on me, asking me follow up questions. I replied that I was an active climber, had rappelled numerous times and that I had flown in a helicopter several times. The lawyers from both sides furiously jotted down notes as I spoke. The judge then moved on to question the other potential jurors who had raised their hand, but only one other juror had any climbing related experience. That consisted of a class years ago where he had learned how to rappel. But he didn't pursue climbing after words. The judge asked some more general questions of the jury pool, then we took a lunch break.

I had some extra time after eating lunch, so I went for a walk around the courthouse. I encountered one of the defense attorneys approaching from the opposite direction. He bowed his head and avoided making eye contact with me. I thought, I've seen that same look from Boeing employees recently, who were sca..., I mean people who crossed the picket line during the SPEEA strike.

When jury selection resumed, it was the attorneys turn to ask questions of the prospective jurors. Being as there were four of them, they took a tag team approach alternating between the Plaintiff and Defense lawyers. A defense

lawyer quickly focused in on me. He wanted to know if I had ever rappelled out of a helicopter before, to which I replied no. Then he wanted to know if I owned or had ever used Chouinard equipment.

BACKGROUND INFO: I was aware that in the late 1980's, a rock climber had come out of a Chouinard harness while climbing and had been injured. The climber then sued Chouinard. In 1991 Chouinard declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy for a variety of reasons including avoiding legal liabilities. The company then reformed as Black Diamond and Patagonia. I own some Black Diamond equipment, but no Chouinard equipment.

At this point I didn't want to reveal what I knew about the Chouinard Company in open court and taint the jury pool. I replied in a negative fashion to the attorney's inquiry. There was something about the tone of my voice that triggered the alarm bell in the mind of the judge. The judge immediately pronounced "That's it! Juror #27, we need to have you come into the back room for a side bar with the lawyers." I gathered up my coat and reading material, figuring I would be dismissed from the jury pool once they learned what I knew.

I was escorted out of the courtroom into a conference room with long table. I sat down at the far end of the table and was quickly surrounded by the four lawyers and the judge. The palms of my hands were moist from perspiration as I waited for the inquisition to begin. The plaintiff's attorney restated the question about whether I owned or used Chouinard equipment. At this point there was no reason for me to conceal what I knew. So I repeated my answer that I didn't own or use Chouinard gear. Without waiting for them to ask a follow-up question, I volunteered that I owned Black Diamond gear. The lawyers and the judge all rocked back into their chair with grins on their faces. I proceeded to tell them what I knew about Chouinard and their legal problems from the 1980's, culminating with them declaring bankruptcy and reforming as the two companies Black Diamond and Patagonia.

Next they wanted to know what type of Black Diamond gear I owned. To be specific, a Black Diamond harness. Off the top of my head I gave them my inventory of Black Diamond gear, which doesn't include a harness. They were very curious about the instructions and warnings on my harness. I told them that my harness included a diagram showing how to weave the waist webbing through the buckle. My harness also included a warning that climbing was dangerous to your health, which amused the judge and the attorneys. They asked me to explain how to tie into a harness.

At this point the judge remarked that I was a "technical expert" and that either side could have me testify for them.

But the big issue for lawyers from both sides was would I use my "technical expertise" to influence the other members of the jury. I replied that I would listen to the testimony and evidence presented in the case to form my opinion and that I wouldn't volunteer any information to the other jurors during deliberations. But if another juror asked me a specific technical question, I would answer it. The sidebar concluded after about 10 minutes and we all returned to the courtroom. I fully anticipated that I would no sooner sit down and then I would be dismissed. To my amazement the proceedings continued without my dismissal.

Later a defense attorney directed a question to the whole juror pool, excluding juror #12 and me. He wanted to know if anyone was familiar with climbing terminology. No one responded. Then he asked the specific question "Does anyone know what the term belay means?" After a few moments of silence, juror #4 made a gesture with his right arm then exclaimed "Isn't that when someone strikes somebody?"

I had to restrain myself from jumping onto my chair and shouting "That's him! There's your juror!" (Juror #4 made the final cut!)

Eventually the lawyers concluded their follow up questions. At this point they marched up to the judge's bench, where they huddled with the judge to determine who would sit on the jury. After they broke their huddle the judge dismissed nine jurors, because the length of trial would be a hardship for them. Six of those nine jurors were in front of me, so now I was up to the #21 spot. There might be hope yet! The judge then proceeded to move people around to end up with 12 jurors and two alternates. They got to within three jurors of me when they selected the jury.

### POSTSCRIPT

On Tuesday evening I phoned the jury information hotline and the recording told me that my services were required on Wednesday for another case. In this criminal case, my jury number was #32 out of pool of 32. After I completed the formality of being dismissed from the second case, I went over to the courtroom where the first case was in

progress. I slipped into the back of the courtroom as discreetly as possible, but the judge noticed me and grinned. The four attorneys turned around, then smiled when they recognized me. Some expert witness was on the stand, droning on about how insurance companies calculate compensation for an injured party. After 10 minutes he concluded his testimony, at which point the judge declared a brief break.

The judge paused and waited for the jury filed out, then exclaimed "Dave, have any luck getting seated on another case?"

I replied "No sir, I was seated # 32 out of pool of 32!"

He countered "Are you still interested in this case Dave?"

"Yes sir!"

All the while the attorneys listened with grins on their faces. After the judge left the courtroom I walked towards the attorneys and greeted them. As I approached the defense attorney's table the two plaintiff attorneys gathered around me too.

I asked one of the defense attorneys if they would have dismissed me if they had gotten to me. The attorney smiled then replied "Ohhh yea! We couldn't take a chance on you using your technical expertise to influence the other jurors. You were a wild card. We had know way of knowing which way you would go."

I then spent a few minutes asking both sides more questions about the details of the case.

A couple of weeks later I returned to the courthouse to find out what the verdict was on the case. I went into the County Clerk's office and filled out the necessary paperwork to get the file on the case. A Clerk had to make two trips to come back with six bulging folders on the case. I sat down at a table in the Clerk's office to skim through the mounds of paperwork. The additional information I learned from the lawyers and from reading the files was as follows:

Swank claims he was a Seal in the Navy and as such had experience rappelling. In 1987 Swank participated in a Snohomish County Search & Rescue training exercise specializing in recovering human beings and other objects from rivers, lakes and other bodies of water. The morning exercise consisted of rappelling from a tower. In the afternoon the training exercise resumed at Harvey Field in Snohomish, out of a helicopter. As Swank was preparing to board the chopper he complained to the pilot about the fit of his harness and wanted to know if there was another harness available. The pilot told him there was a harness in a box inside the chopper. The harness was a Chouinard harness and after Swank put it on, he complained to the co-pilot and training instructor Jim Duffy that it was too small. Swank didn't have enough waist webbing to double back and feed through the buckle. Swank claims that Duffy told him to just tuck the end of the webbing inside his waist webbing, without feeding it through the buckle. Furthermore there was no instructions or diagram on the harness to show how to use it properly.

Swank then boarded the helicopter with the rest of the trainees and they took off. When it was Swank's turn to rappel he initially descended in a controlled fashion. But he soon came out of his harness and managed to grab onto the rope momentarily before falling about 100 ft. He went into the ground feet first, shattering both ankles and suffering back injuries.

Initially Swank attempted to file charges against Duffy, the Chouinard Co, Snohomish County Search & Rescue along with Swallows Nest – who sold the harness to Search & Rescue without providing proper instruction on how to use the harness. After a few years, the charges were dropped against Search & Rescue and Swallows Nest.

In 1993 Chouinard offered a \$550,000 settlement to Swank. I didn't read all the records in the case file, but I can only assume that Swank refused the settlement.

Oh yes, the verdict on the case. Testimony in the case lasted a little over a week. The jury deliberated for two hours then returned with a unanimous verdict. Swank was found negligent for failing to tie into the harness properly.

## Big Al's Big Adventure, continued

### The Travels of Al Baal

July 1, 2000 - Switzerland

Since I've been in Switzerland, my friend Luca has been taking me to places with no email, except when we visited his sister Linda who lives in Tigerwilen (Kanton Thurgau, northeastern Switzerland). While we were there, we did a 63K-bike ride following the shoreline of the Bodensee, where we visited the Zeppelin Museum in Friedrichshafen. On our road trip we covered a large part of Switzerland crossing into Germany and France and back several times, and only one time, did we get asked for our passports.

Some of the highlights of our trip were: a stop off at the popular Rheinfall, and the Rheinau Kirche, seeing the Parliament in Bern and having Luca recognize two of his representatives. In Bonfol Kanton Jura the home of the Chevrolet family, we found more than 10 Chevrolets in the town's cemetery. (Louis Chevrolet immigrated to the USA in 1900). And who can visit Switzerland without a stop in Luzern, with it's well preserved history, and shopping that could keep shoppers happy for hours. We walked over the famous Kapellbrücke a wooden covered bridge from the 14th century that partially burned 10 years ago.

One of the most scenic areas of Switzerland is the Berner Oberland, between Interlaken, Grindelwald, and Kleine Scheidegg. This is the Swiss Alps at its best, with the world famous Eiger, Münch, and Jungfrau Mountains as its center piece. The number one request I had of Luca was to do a hut to hut hike in the Swiss Alps. For that, we went just south of what's known as the Cradle of Switzerland (that's the place where Switzerland's origins are from and is located in the middle of Switzerland). The huts are all managed and staffed for the comfort of hikers that want to hike for many days without a tent, food, or even a sleeping bag, if you don't mind wool blankets to sleep with. And of course, having a nice cold beer waiting for you is a nice way to kick back and enjoy to views from the hut.

After surviving on the bland food of the UK, I have fallen in love with the food here, in particular the bread and cheese. The first time I walked into a well-stocked food store in Locarno Ticino, the home Canton of Luca, I had to cover my mouth, so that I did not drool on the floor.

Luca lives in Gordola near Locarno, were the sun shines on most days and the mountains are just a few minutes away. Yesterday we went on a very hilly 85K-bike ride from his house up the Valle Verzasca. On the way we stopped at a dam (which was a scene of a movie showing James Bond bungee jumping from its top), where 8 visitors for Japan all got very excited when they saw my recumbent bike. Many pictures were taken, and one woman kissed me on my cheeks.

Luca is lucky to live in such a beautiful place, but one must love to climb the hills in order to get the most out of living here. I had to laugh when Luca told me that a very important function on his Avocet bike computer, is that it has an altimeter!

Let me end by saying Thanks Luca for showing me so much of this beautiful Switzerland, and for cooking such wonderful meals. But you really impressed me when you took the strong German wire you normally use for braces in your orthodontic practice, and soldered the hub gear back to the cable on my bike. It was such a good job, I think it will last longer than the bike will!

July 8, 2000 – Switzerland Adieu

(sang to the tune of the Mickey Mouse song)

Now has come the time to say, we'll miss the Swiss a lot –  
M-I-C, see you real soon --  
K-E-Y, why? Because we like you!  
M-O-U-S-E!

Luca has mentioned Disney several times, and has many US maps and pictures (like Ansel Adams) on the walls of his home and office. This has helped me to realize that some of the beautiful landscapes are not only in Europe, but indeed in the USA as well.

'What a Wonderful World'

The yearly New Orleans Jazz Festival is in Ascona, just a few mile from here, and this year's theme was none other than Louis Armstrong's 100th birthday. I remember as a young boy of seven, being at Disneyland, and seeing Louis Armstrong playing his trumpet, and I said to my self, "Holy cow, his cheeks get big when he plays his horn!"

Luca and I did a little foreign exchange cooking. He made homemade pizza and had a nice family get together with all his three kids. It is so nice to break away from a world bike ride and enjoy the comforts of home (click your heels three time and say, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home..."). And as for me? I had not made my super nachos for over 10 years (for reasons I'd rather not say) and only my old friend Karl and Michelle can remember them. That is until last night when I made my super nachos for Luca.

I did a solo bike ride part way around Lago Maggiore, which Luca lives next to. I got in 80K, crossing into Italy at Lasagna and having lunch in Barbe.

Tonight I take the train to Zurich, and fly to Izmir, Turkey, where I will take a bus to meet Patty and Dan in little town of Badrum. I am excited to start my travel adventures again so stay tuned, because if I know Dan, we will have many!

### July 16, 2000 – Big Al's trip report meets Dan and Patty's trip report

The Plan was to meet Dan and Patty at the post office in Bodrum. But the question was, which one? Luckily, we ran into each other the night before we were to meet. Having arrived in Turkey with very little Turkish money, we ended up going to 12 cash machines before one worked. The trick is to draw out just a little at a time. It works, as long as it is no more than 100 million Turkish liras at a time.

The big attraction in Bodrum is the Bodrum castle. It's full of amazing artifacts that are really old (3rd and 4th century). We did not want to spend too much time in Bodrum because it is too touristy, so it is off to biking up the west coast for us. The heat gets up above 100 F soon after 9 am, so we have been trying to get up around 5 am and biking until noon.

What sounds good, when it gets too hot? Do popsicles or a cool swimming beach come to mind? We found the perfect free camping place next to a small cafe. Sali, the owner, let us pitch up our tents on his property. The beach was right next door, but I was distracted on my way into the water by all the topless women. I was hating myself for not having my glasses.

The next day, after biking for a few hours we went to a beach called Camel. We were told the reason is because it is the only place to rent them in Turkey. We found shade (I have never loved shade as much as I do here) and a nice place to lay around eating popsicles, swim and play hacky sack (in the shade of course).

I sometimes hate it when I get notice riding my recumbent bike. Some people make me feel like a freak, but not here in Turkey. What they usually say is, "Very nice, like Harley Davidson!" I also get standing ovations - I like this much more than feeling like a freak!

## The Continuing Saga of Dan Goering

Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>: Hello from Adana, Turkey!

Not long after entering the town of Siliftke in Turkey, Patty and I found ourselves riding along in the blue and red army van surrounded by soldiers armed with assault rifles while a Turkish man lectured me in German. Fortunately, they soldiers were there hoping to help catch whoever had broken into our car just an hour earlier and made off with my pants which held my camera and wallet with passport, credit cards, cash - basically all the important keep-with-you-at-all-times traveler items.

What!? A car? (you are thinking) I thought they were going by bicycle! Mostly true, but we had rented a car in Goreme to speed our way to the coast, as we wanted to meet up with some of Patty's friends vacationing in Rhodes from June 19 to 22. After reaching the blue, blue waters of the Mediterranean on a day when the asphalt of the road shimmered in the sun, we had pulled over for a quick dip in the cool waters. I left the "never leave" items in the locked car and 40 minutes later when we returned, someone had broken in and taken them.

We spent four hours with the Army (who have jurisdiction in that area instead of the police) and finally left with the official report which I need to get a new passport. The most trying part of the experience was the Turkish man who spoke some German they brought in to translate. His German wasn't great but was OK. The chief problem was he loved to talk a lot more than listen. They wanted to see the spot where the theft occurred so we piled into the blue and red army van and drove towards the spot. The man was busy asking me over and over again why we didn't get a license number (We didn't SEE anyone stop!!!) and lecturing me on being careless. I leaned toward his face and said, "It's coming up ... It's right there (pointing with outstretched arm)... It's right HERE! .... It was right there (pointing out the back window past his face) ..." Another kilometer down the road he is still yapping and suddenly asks "Where is it?". I tell him we have passed it and he wants to know why I didn't say anything. Sigh.

My patience had been stretched a lot farther than I thought it could go when they found a British woman who spoke perfect English to help. She was in town for some unfortunate circumstances. Her mother (retired to Turkey) had been killed by robbers, and she was in town to take care of the estate. Her only brother and his family disappeared in the big Istanbul earthquake last year and haven't been seen since. Needless to say, my troubles seemed very minor in comparison.

The good news is there is a US Consulate in Adana, just 2 hours from where the theft occurred and I should have a new passport in just 30 more minutes -- barely 24 hours after the theft occurred. The credit cards should be canceled by now (thanks to Rick Berg, who I woke up rather early that morning with my phone call) and with Patty to act as my sugar mama until I can get them replaced, everything is OK and we will still make the meeting with Allison and Johnny in Rhodes (which is in Greece and would have been impossible for me to visit without a passport!).

Guess I got a bit sloppy, leaving the wallet in the car. A stupid thing to do, but it was also pretty bad luck that we got broken into with the car practically in sight and being away just 40 minutes. Fortunately, I had copies of my passport and birth certificate in a separate spot so it was simple to prove who I was and that I had indeed had a passport. That's my excitement for the week. Hoping for less bureaucratic excitement for the rest of the time!

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(In the meantime, I've managed to replace some other key items that were taken, including my prescription lenses (the backup pair) and the handlebar bag on my bike. I just had a snazzy black mesh wire basket installed this morning!)

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And now stepping back in time, we return to Aksaray, around June 6th ...

Before leaving Aksaray, we tackled Patty's recalcitrant shifter which refused her access to her lowest bike gears. I had concluded that the bottom bracket needed adjustment and we went to the Diksan Bisiklet bike shop hoping they could provide a crank pulling tool. Two and a half hours later after a lot of pantomiming, several cups of tea and a bit of trial and error, we waved and smiled at Muhammed, our young bike mechanic and rode away with a new front shifter. We pulled into camp at the natural hot springs just outside Selime that night after a tiring uphill finish. A bit low on dinner items, we asked 60 year old Sadi, the proprietor, if they had a restaurant. Not sure of the answer, we had a steam bath in the natural sauna and returned to their house to find we had been invited to family dinner!

We crowded around two tables pushed together with Sadi, his 3 sons and two other brothers or cousins or such and Mrs. Sadi brought out bowls of food. Tangy chunks of lamb cooked with onions, tomatoes and green beans. A big plate of sliced cucumber and bright red tomato wedges. A bowl of fried noodles. Smaller bowls of thin white yogurt with diced cucumber. And finally loaves of white bread and also delicious hot flat bread just from the oven. Patty and I eyed this feast hungrily but were unsure what to do as we had no plates.

Sadi came to the rescue, demonstrating that we should break off a chunk of bread for ourselves and just dip right into the communal bowls with our forks and spoons. Periodically, he would call out my name or Patty's and hold out a prime morsel on the tip of his fork for us to bite off. Finally with our sufficiencies nearly satisfied and working just to clean up the last bits of food, they brought out yet another cucumber and tomato plate and a lump of dry salty cows cheese plus more bread.

We managed to stuff a bit more into our swollen bellies and then to finish, I shared a glass of Raki with Sadi and Patty sipped a cold Efes beer while we tried to figure out a gin rummy type game that they played using domino-like tiles. It was fast paced with much fast and hearty clacking and slapping of tiles and I still don't have all the rules all figured out. As we retired to our tent, the crickets and frogs spoke eloquently over the hoarse godfather barking of the family dog.

We rolled into Derinkuyu a couple days later after touring along quiet paved roads through fields awash in the brilliant reds, pinks and purples of wild flowers. Derinkuyu is a small agricultural town on the fringes of the very touristy area of Cappadocia but makes the Lonely Planet guide because of the underground city located there. We strolled out the front door of the Ali Baba hotel the next morning to find our way to it.

Walking through the dusty streets of Derinkuyu past the farmers and their families coming and going on orange Fiat tractors, you see no sign of the underground city that's supposed to be nearby. But just around the corner from the Ali Baba you can walk under a stone archway into a cool dim room carved out of stone and at the back descends a low narrow passage into the depths of the hidden city that lies directly beneath the goings on above. The local inhabitants discovered centuries ago that the soft volcanic "tuff" rock from the nearby Erciyes Dag and Melendiz Dag volcanoes was easily carved and what began as simple food storage caves and living quarters was eventually enlarged into eight levels of underground city into which up to 10,000 of the locals could disappear for up to three months at a time when invading armies swept through. And this area saw many such events during the 7th and 8th centuries when the Arab and Christian armies battled for control. It was Hittite Christians who did the carving and disappearing long ago but Muslims now collect the entrance fees.

We descended the labyrinth of narrow passageways and staircases connecting rooms for sleeping, cooking, wine making, church services and all the daily happenings of life. Significant portions of the city were for storing three months worth of food and wood fuel. Vertical air shafts connect all 8 levels to the surface and the air even at the bottom over 80 meters down is fresh.

Hunched over and shuffling along one passage, we discovered a huge stone "BC comic strip" wheel that could be rolled to block the way of invaders. I tried to imagine what it would be like to navigate these tunnels only by the dim flickering light of an oil lamp. The main passages were electrically lit and marked with colored arrows for us, but I also enjoyed creeping down some dark side passages by headlamp. The local police make a sweep several times a day to rescue tourists who can't find their way back out after descending. Invading soldiers who crept their way into this dark maze were undoubtedly dispatched quickly by the inhabitants familiar with the layout.

That afternoon, we toured a similar underground city 10 km north beneath Kaymakli and then pedaled our way to an orchard camp not far from Goreme, the heart of Cappadocia.

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Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Greetings from Kash!

We rolled in yesterday evening after a spectacular day following a coastal road perched above the glittering Mediterranean. Traffic was light as the truck traffic takes the newer road that runs inland and the older road has accumulated more tar over the years making for a smoother surface and very pleasurable riding. In sweltering afternoon heat an hour outside of town, we pulled off at the bright yellow sign marking the "Blue Cave" below and leapt into the sea to swim inside for a look. Inside, the dark roof loomed above in the darkness, the light from the low entrance gave the waters inside a scintillating blue quality, and we wondered if we really heard or just imagined the squeaking of bats.

We always ponder security a bit on these stops (especially now since the car break-in) and ended up locking the bikes and panniers to the yellow sign and hauling valuables in my backpack down onto the rocks with us. Not a perfect solution as anyone could still rifle through the panniers or quickly cut the straps and be off with them. Also, the pack would be unattended while swimming in the cave and so I deposited it out on a narrow rock ledge hoping no would-be thief would have the cajones to climb out and get it. We could have just skipped the cave or gone in one at a time but the shared experience is better and I don't think a trip made 100 percent secure would be much of a trip. We were happy to see everything was fine on our return!

We had left Patara rather late that morning because we spent some time poking about the ruins of the ancient Lycian port city, a center of activity and trading a few hundred years after the time of Christ. We'd spent the previous day lounging and reading on the fabulous sand beach and never quite got around to seeing the ruins. The Roman amphitheater was half filled in with drifting sand and we scrambled up to the top to sit in the meager shade of a small bush and look out over the scene of brush and sand with great stone ruins jutting up here and there. A small white dog adopted us soon after we started looking around and led us through the ruins as our tour guide, leaving only when we headed back to the bikes.

An interesting fact about Patara is that it was the birthplace of Saint Nicholas! Santa grew up on the sunny coast of the Mediterranean and I can't say how he found his way to a chilly life at the North Pole. Also, rumor has it that he died quite some time ago and was buried for a time in the nearby town of Derme until thieves hauled his remains off to Italy in 1087. His tomb is still there, empty but for the few bits of bone the thieves dropped in their haste. Adding insult, Patty tells me that the Catholic Church revoked his sainthood a number of years back so I guess its amazing the jolly old fellow hasn't become a bit bitter and cynical. This revocation of sainthood sparked an interesting conversation on how saints are declared in the first place and just what else the Catholic church can change its mind about.

Several days before, we sweated into the tiny farming town of Minera several kilometers off the main road and escaped to a cool shady table under the plum and olive trees in the yard of the only restaurant/pension in town. Bayram Guruh, the graying yet spry proprietor gave us an enthusiastic

welcome and asked us in broken German if we would like to eat. Our yes sent him scampering off to the kitchen with no questions asked about what we would like or how much it might cost.

Restaurants in Turkey are often this way. If they have a menu, you're in a tourist place and can bet the price will be a bit higher. Most of the authentic Turkish places have only one or two offerings and you can take it or leave. Inevitably, the meal will include sliced tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers and usually some fruit for dessert and a cup of tea "on the house". Pide (Turkish pizza) is popular and good and we recently discovered a version called "Lamacun" which you make by scattering fresh tomato and parsley on top and then rolling it up. Don't bother with breakfast though. Most places offer lentil soup and fresh bread or a plate of cucumber, tomato and pepper with bread and perhaps some sausage and cheese. Might as well just buy your own at the market and include some of the delicious local yogurt!

Bayram eventually brought out a plate of good fried chicken, bread and a nice diced tomato salad for 3.5 Million Turkish Lira (about \$6). After lunch, I returned to reading "Corelli's Mandolin" (recommended!) and Patty napped at the table until Bayram showed her a mattress on the floor in an upstairs room. We ended up booking the room for the night instead of camping and when the afternoon heat began its transition to a cooler evening, we walked the 2 km dirt lane up to the ancient Lycian city of Pinare above town.

This area is filled with ruins dating from as early as 2000 BC up until Roman times and they are most often perched among hayfields and tomato greenhouses of working farms. The cities have names that are frequently recognizable, like Kash, Pinare, Patara, Olimpos and Xanthos. Most now charge an entrance fee of around 1\$ US and then you are free to explore and climb around on whatever you like. The act in the amphitheater at Xanthos started a rambunctious herd of goats who scampered about bleating, butting heads and pulling at the fig trees.

Looking up at the rock cliff behind Pinara, you immediately notice the dark square caves carved high up the sheer face and wonder how the people got up there to make these grave sites. Ancient people wondered the same and the residents of Pinare were sometimes referred to as "winged" people. Instead of cemeteries, the people lived among the graves of their ancestors with column flanked graves carved into rock faces and also large solid stone sarcophaguses with great domed lids scattered among the other buildings. These ancient cities all have a similar layout based on the ancient Greek and Roman plans. The amphitheater is usually the most impressive site and the most intact as they were built into the hillside. Huge earthquakes rocked this area in the 1st and 2nd century AD and again in 1958 so that most of the temples and other buildings are nothing more than scattered plies of huge blocks and toppled columns. At Aphrodite's temple, we stepped around the remnants of heart shaped columns and on the acropolis on the hill in the center of the site, we gazed up at a still standing yet unidentified building, its huge carved blocks shifted precariously off center. Back at the entrance as the sun disappeared, the keeper's wife, son and daughter-in-law had joined him and we were invited to sit for tea and fresh plums and apricots before they drove us back down the hill.

By the time we left late the following morning, after a huge breakfast and laden with several honeydew melons Bayram presented us with, we had fell in love with quaintness and hospitality of the place even though dinner the pervious night was a bit less tasty than lunch: liver chunks fried up in lard that stuck to the roof of my mouth and gums as it cooled. But we had washed it down with a couple of cold Efis beers, finished with several plates of fresh melon and made everything right with the world.

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Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>: Mereba from Bodrum!

We arrived by bus last night so that we could meet our good friend Al Baal today and continue our bike tour up the Aegean coast to Efes. Lo and behold, just as we were negotiating the price of our pension, who should appear but

Big Al himself! He'd arrived by bus just 20 minutes before us and so now we could skip meeting him at the PTT (post office) next evening at 6 pm. We celebrated our reunion with beers and the swapping of travel tales before Al staggered off to bed, victim of having opted to sleep in the airport the night before rather than ante up for a hotel room in pricey Switzerland. I'm sure some interesting stories are bound to happen with Al around, but while we're waiting for those, let me fill in events on our final biking leg along the Mediterranean coast.

We celebrated July 4th in Demre - home of the empty tomb of Santa Claus. The marble sarcophagus with broken out front sits in the St Nicholas Basilica. His bones were snatched back in 1087 by a band of Italian merchants returning home after a trading voyage. We'd escaped the heat with a swim and then set the tent up on a carpet of pine needles in a shady grove just beyond the harbor. As we walked our bikes back to the road to go hunt up an appropriate celebration dinner, picnicking Turks waved us over and invited us to share tea. One couple was from Demre, the other from Adana. Both were parents of twins! The matching pairs of boys and of girls played about the woven mat we all shared, the car radio blared Turkish dance music and tea turned into tea, olives, cheese, borek (cheese filled bread), and corn-on-the-cob. By dusk when they drove off, Patty and I had also learned a few Turkish dance moves and were left holding a big bag of tomatoes, olives, peppers, cheese and bread they had insisted we take. No fireworks to speak of but all in all, a very nice way to celebrate.

Outside of Demre, the road follows the arc of the bay and then climbs slightly to follow the coast eastwards just meters above the sea. At 6:30 am, the still cool morning rushed past as I pumped my bike through the curves and down the hills, downshifting to zoom back up the inclines, carried along by the momentum of two loaded back panniers. A narrow white sand beach slipped in and out of view on a tight inside corner, a fisherman working from his white rowboat just off shore. Around 6:45 a curve had sun waiting on the far side and the day was heating up fast on our arrival in Finike at 7:15 am.

We've had a streak of record breaking heat here the past week. High temperatures have been between 45 and 50 deg C (105 to 120 deg F!) making biking very uncomfortable after about 10 am. It's a heat that makes you loathe to move, let alone exercise. One morning, I sat under a tree in my shaded white plastic patio chair at the Medusa campground gazing apathetically at my panniers waiting to be packed. Beads of sweat trickled down my brow. I gazed a bit more, searching for the will to stuff the tent in. I'd have to start pedaling after packing, so why pack? Eventually we got moving that morning, but we've been averaging only 40 km or so a day.

Out of Finike you pedal 18 km of beach road and then into a long grueling climb inland, which we hit about 10 am. Every 30 minutes, we'd stop in a shade patch for some warm water. Finally, we saw the blue sign indicating the extra lane for slow trucks was ending in 200 meters, usually a sign that we're about to have a nice downhill. We stopped for a cold glass of Ayran - the refreshing yogurt drink that is sold almost everywhere along with gozleme, turkish flatbread with cheese and spice filling. Back on the bikes, we discovered the hill wasn't over, just lessening in angle a bit. Thirty minutes later, we pulled into the shaded awning of a Petrol Ofisi station and consumed two "Coronetto Taco" ice cream sandwiches. The hill obviously had to end just ahead and not much further had to be the turnoff for Olimpos - a backpacker hangout set on a beach and among the ruins of the Lycian city of the same name.

Olimpos is also known for its treehouse pensions. Hot and rather beat from our grueling day, we checked into the last treehouse at the Shaban pension. Most of the houses are actually just built on stilts with a tree nearby to lean against. Ours was about 3 meters off the ground and one of the supports was hanging loose by the top nails. I gave it a good shake to check its sturdiness and deemed it an acceptable risk. The walls and floors are made of rough cut wood with plenty of cracks. The advantage of this design is that the breeze finds its way in through all these spaces

and the shade of the tree keeps things relatively cool (if that's possible in such temperatures!). We relaxed until dinner, reading and drinking copious amounts of water to replace what we'd sweated away. The South African bartender offered to put a couple bottles in the cooler for us and then asked where we had filled them. When I responded it was local tap water, I was told that even locals don't drink the local water and that a woman last week had a nasty vomiting spell from drinking it. Uh oh. So far through Turkey, good cold clean water had been plentiful. The highways are frequently punctuated with wells and Patty and I had been drinking a lot of this sweet water over the past 6 weeks. Guess we should have asked here in Olimpos, but too late now so guess we'll just see what happens.

That night at dinner we met Albrecht and Hogerst, two Germans from Stuttgart and also Radca and Suzzane, Czech college students off traveling for the summer. Hogerst, or Hogi, displayed his uncanny ability to attract the sweat bees which hummed and hovered everywhere about him and his plate, which he'd covered with a napkin between sneaking bites. The Germans were on their last vacation for the next couple years, as they plan to start their own landscaping and stonework business when they get back which should keep them quite busy for a couple of years. They've already bought an orange truck and orange backhoe but are still looking for a company name. They didn't like my suggestion of "Agents Orange".

Later down the road at the "Red Bull" bar, we pondered other potential company names over a beer and danced to music that was refreshingly not composed entirely of disco and techno-pop. The camp fire in the middle of the dance floor made things a bit warm and I have to think that if we'd stayed through until dawn like some, we would have witnessed some unintentional hot-coal walking.

In the heat, the beach is the best place to be and that's where we spent the next day. The highlight for me was when Hogi loaned me his snorkel fins and mask. I haven't been scuba diving or snorkeling much since I started mountain climbing, but I think I would more if I lived on the Mediterranean. The fins lend you a real grace underwater. You just let your hands fall back to your sides and glide easily along just above the bottom rising to clear rocks and arching your body to drop steeply back down the other side. The world becomes turquoise, lighted by dappled patches of sun refracted from the surface waves and a few fish dart away. Then it's back to the surface to pull salt air through the snorkel before descending again.

Following the curving base of the rock shore, I spotted a shaft of light at the end of a short tunnel into the rock. I grabbed a fresh breath and had one more look, not wanting to do anything foolish down there in some underwater cave. One more breath and then I swam through to the light and surfaced to find my self completely surrounded by towering rock with just the blue sky visible above.

An interesting fact is that the Turkish have only one word for the colors of both blue and green. It's this combination of these two colors that the French coined "Turquoise" and so aptly describes the waters of the Turkish Mediterranean coast.

At dusk that night, we set off with the Germans and Czechs on the 2-hour hike to Chimera, the site of the eternal flames that burn from the mountainside above Olimpos. The heat was still oppressive at this hour and all but Hogi were feeling a bit out of sorts due to our gluttony at dinner just before departing. The flames are rather small these days as compared to first couple centuries AD when mariners used the bright light to navigate by. Nevertheless, they are still intriguing despite the plastic patio furniture equipped snack bar some enterprising locals have set up near by. We lounged in the flickering orange light of multiple flames, held our swollen stomachs and gazed at the stars.

Nearly back to our tree houses by 1 am, we stopped for a reviving swim in the dark sea. I dropped my sweaty clothes and plunged into the cool waters and was soon amazed to see small purple spots of light glowing beneath the surface. I waved my hand through the lights and suddenly there

were several times as many. Excitedly, I waved both hands, fingers spread, through the water and even more glowing purple spots appeared. I believe I was looking a phosphorescent breed of plankton that give off this glow. I had heard of this before, but never seen it before. Amazing!! I felt cold for the first time in weeks after emerging from the water and lay on warm pebbles that would have blistered my skin in mid afternoon. It was one of those magic moments I wish could last but I was beat, my stomach was a bit queasy and we had to be up at 6 am to tackle "the hill".

I failed to mention earlier that Olimpos lies 11 km from the main road and about 9 km of it on the way in was steep brake-eating, switchbacked downhill. It would be a brutal climb back out even with an early start to mitigate the heat somewhat. I knew Patty was dreading this and I was certainly not excited about it. Fortunately, we'd whined a bit about it over dinner and the young proprietor of Shaban had offered to haul us and our bikes to the highway provided we were ready to go at 6:30 am. Yes!!!!

Thank goodness for small favors -- Patty's plumbing was misbehaving the next morning and we'd have never gotten out of Olimpos without the van ride. As it was, the 27 km of predominantly downhill riding on to Kemer took over 3 hours due to frequent puke stops but Patty persevered with a strong showing of character. We limped into town at 10 am in 50 deg C heat. I knew Patty was really overheated when we passed a man watering his driveway and she brazenly asked him to turn the hose on her and give her a good soaking! We splurged on a \$16 air conditioned hotel room and barely left it for the next 24 hours while Patty fought a fever and queasy stomach.

Both our stomachs are mostly recovered now and we've resumed our ravenous consumption of Turkish specialties once again. One of my favorite delights is doubly good because it's free and brings back childhood memories: the mulberry!

Outside my parent's house in Illinois, we have a small grassy mound of dirt out of which grows a mulberry. The sweet centimeter long purple berries ripen in late spring and it's impossible to pick and eat them without ending up with stained hands, cheeks and usually a splotch or two on your shirt or pants. My dad's side of the family still farms out in eastern Nebraska and when we were young, we used to spend every July 4th there with our twenty plus-a-few cousins. I'm sure you can imagine the scene when this rambunctious pack of kids would return from a mulberry picking session! Many of the trees here are white mulberries - not as sweet as the purple but much less messy to eat. Samyon Bilmess, a very hospitable and fascinating man we met in Marmaris, told me about growing up in Azerbaijan with mulberry trees that would produce huge intensely flavored berries up to several centimeters in length! I think I am going to have to investigate this one of these years. I also think I'm going to have to tell you a bit more about Samyon, but I'll save that for later.

Thanks again to everyone who sent news updates of what's happening in your corner of the world. I imagine that back in Seattle, the sun has finally arrived, weekends are packed with mountain outings and salmon BBQs, and the news media are busy reporting fascinating and irrelevant facts about our current presidential candidates. It'd sure be nice to pop in for a quick weekend!

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Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>: Hello from Didem!

Just a quick update on the past week of riding with Al Baal, our friend from Seattle. It has been very entertaining as Al rides a green recumbent bike with a little yellow plastic Samsonite-type suitcase trailer he pulls behind. In case you haven't heard of them, a recumbent bike has a "chair" instead of a seat and the rider leans back into it with his feet straight out forward to the pedals at the very front of the bike. Al's is designed to quickly dismantle and pack into the suitcase/trailer for easy airline travel. Add to this Al's headdress of a colorful kerchief held in place with a white sweatband (to keep the sun off) and Patty and I when we follow behind get to see the swiveling heads and amazed stares of the people he passes by. He gets lots of comments and the little kids flash huge smiles when he lets them sit in the seat and pushes them around for a little test ride.

The heat has abated a bit this week, though we still hide out at the beach or a lake during the heat of the day. We've discovered Algida brand "Callipo" popsicles and are already addicted to the orange and lemon flavored tubes of ice. In addition, with Al along we can buy food that comes in bigger containers without having to carry it forever. As of now, we're trucking around a big jar of homemade olives and a half-finished jar of local honey. Tried a bag a pistachios today and will soon be addicted to those too!

Other highlights of the week include sleeping out front of the Yali Park Hotel in Yalikavak in their decorative grass hut that was part of their floorshow earlier in the evening. The floorshow consisted of music from a zorna (cobra charmer's type flute) and drum which accompanied men in traditional dress vigorously mashing hot spices into a huge pile of raw hamburger and dancing about while tossing great balls of it into the air. This special dish is called Chi Kofte and we ate wads of it wrapped in fresh Romaine lettuce leaves and sprinkled with lemon juice later that evening.

Next night found us at the quite rural and nearly vacant My World Nature Action camping resort dancing to Pimienta Negra - a 12 piece Cuban band. The resort had been open only 1 week and was quite nice. The owners hope it becomes a big student Mecca and hangout. It is perched on an inlet of the Aegean Sea surrounded by wheat fields and half finished concrete mini-condos that a developer probably hopes to finish someday when the tourism scene in Turkey heats up again.

On the shores of Bafa Golu lake, we camped just outside an small farming village surrounded by massive stone walls constructed in 300 BC and met Abdulla, the towns Imam - the guy who makes the wailing call to prayer that happens 5 times a day in Muslim countries. He invited us back to his house for bread, olives and Ayran and we took the opportunity to discover that Imams start attending a special school to learn the Koran and Arabic at age 15 and study for 10 years. When he's not making prayer calls, he weaves carpets at home with his wife and 2 daughters.

His 6-year-old daughter had a nice cool-looking summer tomboy haircut and that afternoon outside the Selene restaurant, Patty displayed amazing faith and courage and let me give her my interpretation of this style. I was relieved to see that it turned out fairly well despite my lack of experience and inch-long folding travel scissors.

Today, we biked on to Didem and made it a two watermelon day - the second consumed while lounging at the beach. The road in was quite busy for a Sunday and didn't have much shoulder so we were glad to arrive. At our shady camp in the pines, another picnicking Turkish family gave us several liters of ice water, a plate of amazing domates (spiced rice and meat wrapped in grape leaves) and a box of home-made Borek cheese pastries before piling in their van to return home to Izmir.

Much of the riding has been very rural the past couple days and we've had to dodge a few cows. Early morning in one sleepy town, a truck was making rounds to pick up fresh milk at each local farm with cows and the mosque was nothing more than an ordinary looking structure with loud speakers mounted on a telephone pole.

Tomorrow, we visit ancient Didyma - site of the best preserved Temple of Apollo in Turkey constructed of huge blocks of marble and reputed to feature an intricate carving of Medusa's head. We may even eat another watermelon!

RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name(s)), certify that I am aware of all the inherent dangers of mountaineering, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in mountainous terrain, accidents, or illness in remote places without medical facilities, the forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons.

I understand that it is not the function of the activity leaders to serve as the guardians of my safety. I also understand that I am to furnish my own personal equipment and I am responsible for its safety and good operating condition regardless of where I obtained it. I understand and agree that neither the Boeing Employees Alpine Society (BOEALPS) nor its officers, agents, operators, instructors, leaders of club sponsored activities, other assistants and the Boeing Company may be held liable in any way for any occurrence in connection with club activities which may result in injury, death, or other damages to me. In consideration of being allowed to participate in club activities, **I HEREBY PERSONALLY ASSUME ALL RISKS** in connection with said activities, and **I RELEASE** the aforementioned club, officers, agents, operators, instructors, activity leaders and assistants from responsibility for any harm which may befall me while I am engaged in club activities, including all connected risks, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable. **I FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY** the aforementioned entities and Company and persons from any liability, claims, and causes of action which I may have arising out of my enrollment and participation in this club.

I further state that I am 18 years of age or older and legally competent to sign this release (or in the event that I am a minor, my parent or legal guardian must sign this release), that I understand these terms are contractual and not a mere recital, and that I have signed this document as my own free act. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assignees, personal representatives, and for all members of my family, including any minors.

**I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Additional Family:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PRASH BHAT, M/S OK-19  
OR: 23227 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Edmonds, WA 98020  
OR: prashantha.bhat@pss.boeing.com

**NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY**

ALPINE ECHO



**August ECHO staff**

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: John Lixvar, Scott Drum,  
Zac Imboden, David Hamilton,  
Mike Garrison, Dave Creeden,  
Al Baal, Dan Goering,  
and all the photographers!

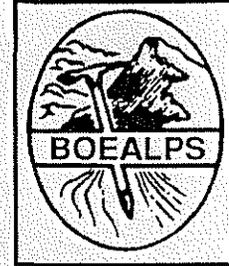
*Thanks for all the contributions this month! If you  
have any submissions - anything vaguely  
mountaineering or outdoors related will do -  
email them to me at  
matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in  
inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices  
will work, give me a call at  
(425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

September 2000

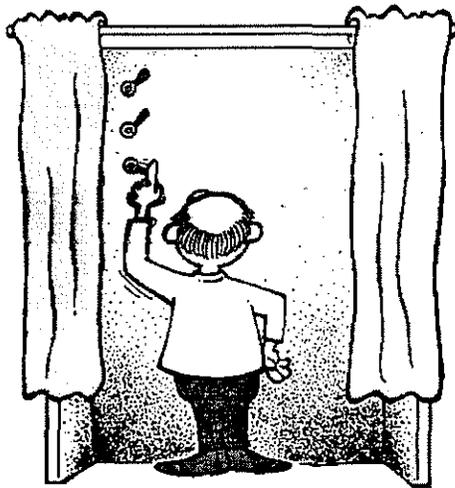


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			BCAG Recreation		Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: "Lobuche Peak, Nepal" by Shawn Paré

From Prash Bhat 04-JJ



## September General Meeting

**Club Elections!  
Be There and Vote!**

**Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
Blue Star Café and Pub in Wallingford  
4512 Stone Way North**

## **BELAY STANCE**

### **Mega-Resort at Mt. Rainier? Development Imminent...**

Anyone concerned about the long-term future of Mt. Rainier National Park should give attention to breaking news about a proposed development there. Permitting is in the final stages for a new resort to be built on 400 acres of forest and pasture between Elbe and Ashford, about 10 miles from the park entrance. The commercial development calls for 70,000 square feet of mall-style retail shops, an 18-hole golf course, a conference center, 300 unit RV park, 300-room Lodge, 400 condos and homesites, a 150-room Executive Inn, a train station, a sewage treatment plant, and 200 housing units for employees working in all of the above. Experts estimate that the development could draw an extra 5,000 people to MRNP each day in the summer, virtually doubling the population of the area. Supporters of the development, including Seattle Times outdoor columnist Ron C. Judd, believe that commercial development is inevitable, and the extra traffic could be mitigated by a bus system similar to those proposed for Yosemite and in place at Zion National Park.

Conservationists object to the plan because they believe it will impact the wilderness character of the park. They are also concerned that the building will take place on elk habitat, threatening a resident herd of over 150 animals. The Tahoma Audubon Society in Tacoma has been joined by The National Parks and Conservation Association to appeal the Final Environmental Impact Statement as inadequate and has caused a delay for Pierce County in issuing the permits to build this fall.

Anyone who would like to voice an opinion on the plan may contact:

Stephen Causseaux  
Hearing Examiner  
Pierce County Planning and Land Services  
2401 South 35th Street  
Tacoma, WA 98409

### **MOFA Instructors Needed!**

Joyce Holloway is anticipating that a Boealps MOFA class will be scheduled for the Jan/Feb time frame, depending on the availability of instructors. If you are interested in becoming a MOFA instructor, the Mountaineers is offering two MOFA Instructor courses this fall – check out the web page at <http://mountaineers.org/MOFA/instructor.html>. Once you have taken this course, you can teach for Boealps or any of your favorite organizations. You can set up your own classes or help teach a class that has already been set up. For more information, contact Joyce at (425)477-4393

### **Boealps Web Site...**

For up to the minute details, the Boealps web site at <http://www.boealps.org> is still a great place for info. Rob always gets the issue of the Echo before the print shop does, so if your copy of the Echo hasn't arrived before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, and you'd like to see what's scheduled for the monthly general meeting, browse on over to the web site – the info is on the front page. The password (needed for activities and the member's roster sections) is still: SLESSE

From the desk of your editor,

  
Matt Robertson

***October Echo deadline is September 21<sup>st</sup>***

## September, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 Ice Climbing Lecture	7 Club Elections	8	9
10	11	12	13 Full Moon	14	15	16 Sahale Peak
17 Sahale Peak	18	19	20	21 Echo deadline	22	23
24	25	26	27 New Moon	28	29 Club Banquet	30

## October, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Fall Campout (Winthrop)	7 Fall Campout (Winthrop)
8 Fall Campout (Winthrop)	9	10	11	12	13 Full Moon	14 Ice Climbing Seminar
15 Ice Climbing Seminar	16	17	18	19 Echo deadline	20	21
22	23	24	25 New Moon	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				

# hikes • scrambles • ski trips • climbs • other

## Sahale Peak (8680')

September 16-17

Climb to one of the most beautiful viewpoints in the North Cascades via the spectacular Boston Basin.

<b>Party Limit</b>	8
<b>Route</b>	Qien Sabe Glacier, Grade I, Class 3
<b>Equipment</b>	Standard glacier and overnight gear
<b>Experience</b>	Basic Class grad or equivalent
<b>Contact</b>	Tom Ryan, tom-p.ryan@frco.com, 425-487-8706(w), 206-527-2724(h)

Submit activities to: **Ilan Angwin**  
**206-729-0640**  
**iangwin@hotmail.com**

**Pickin's are getting pretty slim -  
be brave and submit an activiy!**

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## Programs

By Victor Yagi

### September General Meeting - Annual Elections:

The club elections will be held on Thursday, September 7 at 7:00 pm at the Blue Star Café and Pub in Wallingford. This year we will also be voting on the changes to the club by-laws (the new by-laws are printed elsewhere in this issue). Come out and run for the one of the board positions, volunteer to chair a committee, or make your voice heard on the by-law changes. Get involved! It is a great way to meet climbing partners, get the inside scoop on club activities, and influence the club to be the way you want it. Arrange to meet your fellow Boealpers and trade stories from the summer. Spread the word. Arrive early to partake in munchies and drinks provided by the club. See you there.

Blue Star Café and Pub  
4512 Stone Way N

### Upcoming Events:

#### Annual Banquet:

Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> will be our annual banquet (and October general meeting, just a few days early!). We'll be holding it at the Mountaineer's clubhouse this year, and the featured speaker will be Jim Wickwire. Jim is one of the best-known Northwest climbers, with extensive Himalayan and Alaskan climbing experience. He recently wrote his autobiography, "Addicted to Danger". This is always an evening of great fun – put it on your calendar and look for additional details and the sign-up sheet in this issue of the Echo...

The November General Meeting will be back in the Oxbow Recreation Center – the speaker is still to be determined. If you'd like to volunteer for a mini-show (or the main show), please contact Victor.

Victor: 425-477-4812 or yagwan@yahoo.com

# ***Boealps Activity Submittal Form***

*Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!*

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

## **Submit activities to**

Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com

# Boealps October Campout

- Where:** Pearrygin Lake near Winthrop
- When:** October 7 - 8, 2000
- Who:** All club members, families, friends.
- What:** Rock Climbing, Hiking, Cycling, Bragging, Lounging.
- How:** Return the attached form by October 3<sup>rd</sup> or e-mail your confirmation. Please bring a food item to share with the other members for the Saturday night potluck dinner.
- Directions:** From Winthrop, make a left at a four way stop in the middle of town onto Chewuch Rd. Follow this road two miles to Pearrygin Lake road and make a right. Follow signs to the State Park.

**Note: Due to budget cuts, Boealps will not supply food this year!**

- Rules:** A quiet sleeping area will be reserved for members who want an early bedtime. Please ask where it is before setting up your tent. Loud and wild behavior will be limited to just after 10pm. Please note that some people will stay up very late around the ol' campfire.

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## October Campout Response Form

(RSVP requested by Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>)

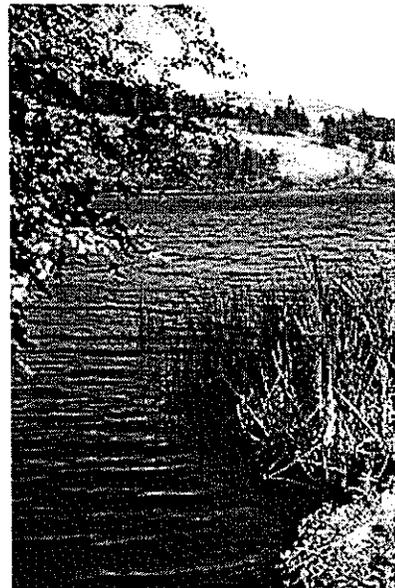
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Potluck Dish: \_\_\_\_\_

Send response to: Ilan Angwin  
Mail: 110 NE 62<sup>nd</sup> St.,  
Seattle, WA 98115

E-mail: iangwin@hotmail.com



**Pearrygin Lake**

## Ice Leading Seminar

Mt. Rainier and international guide Alex Van Steen heads up this seminar (which has not been done for at least four years) on the great glacial ice of the Coleman Glacier, just before the fall monsoons begin. Ice conditions are usually stellar in mid-October. Alex is constantly out on the road doing trips – thus the long gap between lecture and outing.

If you are interested in climbing ice but have little experience, this seminar is for you – Alex will show you the basics of ice tool placement, crampon technique and balance, and setting up anchors for lead and top-rope climbing. The emphasis will be on the basics and will involve a lot of top-rope climbing, but there may be an opportunity for leading short pitches as time allows.

**Lecture: Wednesday, Sept.6 7-9 pm Oxbow Recreation Center**

**Outing: Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 14-15 Coleman Glacier, Mt. Baker**

Cost: TBD

Required equipment:

- Crampon-compatible leather or plastic boots
- Crampons (make sure they fit and are adjusted to your boots)
- Ice axe
- Harness
- Helmet
- Belay device
- 2 single slings, with two 'biners each
- 2 double slings, with two 'biners each
- 2 locking 'biners (in addition to 2 locking 'biners on front of your harness)
- One single-rated rope/two people
- Standard glacier gear (chest harness, prussiks, pulley, etc.)
- 10 essentials

Optional:

- Pickets
- Ice screws
- Ice tools

Borrow if you don't have all these items on the required/optional list, but don't buy anything you don't have – we'll supply the rest. The club has a number of ice tools to borrow, so contact one of our equipment chairs for availability.

Note: This is an overnight trip – we'll hike the 3 miles to the bivy spot, drop off gear, climb on Saturday, bivy, climb on Sunday, head home.

Experience: Basic Class or equivalent

Limit: 12 (I'll take the first 12 who contact me)

Contact: Len Kannapell  
kannapell@yahoo.com  
(206)522-7022 h.



## **CONSERVATION CORNER**

By Troy Colyer

Approximately 25,000 firefighters are on the fireline, and they are probably setting a world record for battery consumption. Communication between firefighters is crucial for firefighter safety. Given the remote location of wildfires - scores of miles from power and telephone lines - firefighters are using two-way radios to communicate. These radios take batteries. Lots of batteries. Steve Jenkins, unit leader at the National Incident Radio Support Cache, says that during the height of the 1996 wildfires 330,000 batteries were used each day. This year he estimates 400,000 batteries are being used each day in all applications from pagers and radio communication to flashlights and headlamps. All battery sizes are being used, including AAA, AA, C, D, and the larger six and 12-volt batteries.

If all the batteries used each day were size AA, one could lay them end-to-end and reach from Seattle to Portland, Ore. in 15 days - 173 miles. AA batteries see the much of their daily use in hand-held two-way radios and firefighter headlamps - both serving to keep firefighters safe.

The used batteries are recycled.

National Forest news releases for Idaho, Montana:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/pgr/fireinfo/index.html>

National Forest service fire pages (includes job listings):

<http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>

National Forest Service fire reports:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/reports.shtml>

Montana DNRC fire page:

<http://www.dnrc.state.mt.us/forestry/fireb.htm>

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## **July Board Meeting Minutes**

In attendance were: Bill Harrison, Noreen Borg, Ed Alejandro, ~~Len Kannapell~~, Rich Baldwin.

Discussed details of the August picnic.

**Discussed fall campout outing. The board is leaning towards holding the campout in Mazama.**

**Len Kannapell** booked the instructor for the Ice Climbing Seminar.

Continuing discussions on tax implications for club. Club needs to file for a tax ID number. This filing costs \$500, which will come out of this year's budget.

Discussed possible candidates for next year's board. Elections will be held at the Blue Star Café and Pub in Wallingford on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in board positions please let a current board member know. Elected officials must be Boeing employees.

The new changes to the club's By-laws will be voted on at the club elections at the Blue Star as well.

Glenn Tomchik, secretary

## Short Trip Reports

### By David Hamilton

#### **July 29-30, Mt Rainier, Ingraham Direct Route**

We hiked up to Muir after work Friday and got there as RMI was leading their intrepid rope teams out for their long trek. We slept in as best we could and met up with the others the following day. We then went up to Ingraham Flats and crashed out there, baking in our tents. What's new? Nothing I guess. Eat, drink, and pressure breathe lest you wind up sucking wind and feeling nauseous the whole way up and down, like me. Thanks to Vic for leading this, to all in our group, and to Len and Ilan for the extra fuel and water.

#### **August 5-6, Mt. Thompson via the west ridge**

Gary Ryder and I went up the PCT to Gravel Lake. It really is a beautiful trail with annoyingly long switchbacks. Kendall Katwalk was pretty kool as well. The scenery is nice but the biting flies, gnats and skeeters are out in full force so bring your flamethrower. We camped at Gravel Lake and then made a short but steep hike up and over a ridge to our approach. The approach to the base of the climb is up scree and loose rock, wonderful stuff. The climb was interesting. We only got about three pitches (two hundred feet for us) up before we hit our turn-around time. We started a bit late and this was our first time leading while placing our own protection. The climbing is relatively straightforward and this was great for us to learn on. One thing I hadn't thought of was how to get down. I personally think down-climbing is for the birds. I did it that one time and I can't say I enjoyed it. We rapped off the shrub/tree for the last bit. Those little rap rings are a wise investment.

#### **August 11-13, Mt. Rainier, Emmons Route**

So this hike is supposed to be the easiest? We had more crevasse exposure, thinner bridges, and these annoying pig troughs to ascend. I'd take the Ingraham Direct route first and by now, you might have to. We awoke on Emmons Flats to the meteor shower and the awesome Aurora Borealis. It was tough to get ready while taking this all in. We got past all the crevasses and made it up to a summit with clear skies and some wind, much like the previous time. We took a dip in the hot tub and ordered some cappuccinos and rested on the sun deck before heading down. Yes, there really is a resort up there. We crashed out that day at the Flats again and woke up to see three people playing Frisbee in the morning. You'll have to catch, "... the rest of the story," from the Boealps grapevine. The weather was nice and we all had a good time.

#### **August 19, Ingalls Peak with the supposed 5.6 variation**

Gary and I went up Saturday morning and started our hike to Ingalls Peak. We came across two guys who packed pretty light, judging by their packs. They were coming back from trying, unsuccessfully, to go up the north ridge of Stuart. They stated it was too cold up there - they were wearing shorts and T-shirts when we saw them. The Headlight Basin area is a nice spot to camp in. When we got up to the base of Ingalls, it was cold and windy. The reason we learned to climb in our mountaineering boots in the BCC is that your feet will turn into popsicles if you stick them in those rock shoes in this kind of weather - now I understand! The crack to the right is a supposed 5.6, which is what we went up. It was simple enough and two pitches long. This peak had quite a few folks going up, even in that weather. The clouds kept Stuart hidden and we had a sprinkling of moisture every now and then. The climb is two pitches long and would make a worthy BCC climb as it has a 5.2 crack on the left.

*(Editor's Note: I know a lot of you are out there doing climbs like this - how about dropping your ol' editor a few short trip reports like David has been doing?)*

## **Gothic Horror, or MOFA for Real**

### **Rich Christie July 24, 2000**

(No climbers were seriously injured in the course of preparing this trip report.)

The last adventure with rockfall, sliding climbers and bushwhacking on an otherwise enjoyable climb of Del Campo might have been a clue to look elsewhere for climbing fun for a while, but noooooo, I had to go back to Gothic Basin to tag Gothic Peak, described as "a walkup along the left hand skyline - trail all the way" by the guy who took our picture on the summit of Del Campo. The fact that said guy and his wife followed us into the bushwhack on the way out, and then disappeared, did not deter us (and his beta was not far off).

Climbers Aggie, Jenny Riddell and friend Mark from search and rescue, John Alley, Ron Stephenson, Prash Bhat and friend Chris from work assembled at the trailhead at the end of the paved section of the Mountain Loop highway Sunday July 23. By 7:45 we were walking down the road to Monte Cristo. We managed to avoid the short false trail to the right, arrived at the trailhead just shy of the road bridge and set off up the Weden Creek trail, encountering a student from two years ago in the process, who probably recognized me by the helmet I was wearing on the road. Boealps is everywhere! This one was out with his wife and/or girlfriend walking his dogs.

We cruised along the trail through the light rain and intermittent almost-but-not-quite sun breaks, crossing snow gullies until we overshot the turn up to the saddle (a candidate to be an "obvious" notch) because the trail was under snow at that point. When the route started steeply down Jenny was the first to question where we were going, and a look at the map revealed that we were probably heading more towards Weden Lake rather than up into the Basin. Someone had a GPS but it turns out you need one of those templates to position yourself on the map any more accurately than "on the map," or at least to do so fast enough to be worthwhile.

(Much later, on the way out, we met a climber whose party had actually gone all the way down to Weden Lake. Although he thought that the gully up from the Lake to Gothic Basin was passable, they opted to return the way they had come, and when we met him, had overshot the turnoff to the saddle yet again. Not daunted, he headed up to the Basin when we pointed him the right way.)

We came back and (mostly by following another group of climbers) found our way up into the basin and eventually to Gothic. From the lake you go left up to the dip in the ridge and turn right once on top. There you find a high left ridge, a shoulder which is a sort of shallow gully in between, and a shorter right ridge which overlooks the lake. We followed the high left ridge, because we could not see the mountain due to the mist, but it turned out that the shoulder would have been a better route (less traversing on steep snow). The summit block is a short scramble from the left hand skyline, reached via a snow tongue and talus.

Summit weather was misty with radiant heat coming through. It was warmer than the lake. I got in a 15 minute summit nap while summit treats were exchanged. When the precipitation got heavy enough to wake me up, we headed down.

It had cleared up enough to see that the shoulder would be a good route back to the low point in the ridge above the lake. We came down the steep snow from the scramble start, and picked up the uphill tracks. These had come up the ridge line, and in places went above some short talus slopes. I glissaded straight down, leaving the talus on my right. The hard snow made glissading difficult for some, and we got to critique arrest technique. Consolidated late season snow like this is perfect for arrest practice, except for the bumps.

Ron elected not to glissade, since he had not put on rain pants. He followed the uphill steps down, in part to get clear of the glissading track. This put him about 10 feet above the open talus on steep, hard snow, and he slipped. He went feet first into the rocks, with no time to arrest, and then did a somersault over the rocks before coming to a stop. I saw his ice axe between his body and the rock while he flipped, and was instantly reviewing the MOFA class, just like last time. Within seconds, though, Ron was standing up and talking coherently. When I asked if he was OK, he said he had hit his left leg. He undid his gaiter and there on the front left side of his shin was a triangular indentation about 0.5 cm deep and 1 cm on the long side. It looked

like he had hit the corner of a table with his leg. While I looked it pulsed blood, just like we talk about in MOFA class. Bloop --- bloop --- bleah!

I wanted him to sit down and put his leg up on a convenient rock formation but he wouldn't sit down until he got out his gauze pad and held it to the wound. Then Jenny showed up and took over the first aid. She uncovered the wound to look at it, and said "Wow!" I thought you weren't supposed to say stuff like that where the patient could hear, but Ron seemed none the worse for it. Jenny broke out a pair of rubber gloves from a film canister and basically put a couple of pads on the wound and wrapped it with a roller bandage. I expected Ron to bleed like a stuck pig because he is on a blood thinner for his heart, and when we let him stand up he said he could feel the blood running down into his boot - not a pleasant feeling, I imagine. But this was just blood left over from before the pad was in place. The bandage held like a champ.

Ron was mobile, so everybody else took his gear from his pack and we headed on down. Ron actually left several of the other climbers lagging as we headed out. The bandage held up well - we checked it every half mile or so - Ron reported that it did not hurt much and everyone reminded Ron to drink, to stay hydrated. Of course, the clouds burned off and the sun came out an hour after we left the summit, and it was just a fine day, and we got back to the cars about 5:00 PM.

Ron had in fact reopened the wound when he landed a bit off-kilter a mile and a half from the cars, and was starting to get some leak-through of the original bandage, so Jenny put another dressing on top of the old one. Since he had just walked out four miles of rough trail at a fast pace, it was hard to work up a sense of urgency about getting Ron to the hospital, although of course that's where he needed to go. The eventual plan was for Ron, Prash and Chris to drive to the Everett Park and Ride where they had met, and for Ron's sister, who lived nearby to drive him to the hospital. Ron passed on the chance for a beer at the Mountain View with some regret.

Cell phone contact somewhere down the road established that Ron's sister was not home, so his car just went directly to the Everett hospital, where Ron astonished the doc and received 10 stitches, 4 inside, 6 outside. (Ron at the desk: "I've got a puncture wound." Doc looking at the wound "Sir, that's a bit more than a puncture wound!")

Ron reports that the doc was of the opinion that the wound was a rock gash, not from the ice axe, and the gaiter was not punctured. Jenny's handiwork on the bandage got good reviews. If you are going to have a wound like that, then where Ron put it is probably a pretty good place. It missed the bone, which it might have broken, and it did not seem to involve any muscles vital to transportation. It didn't even seem to hurt much. Turns out Ron hit his head on the rocks while doing his somersault. Good thing he was wearing his helmet, and did not suffer a head injury. He credits the Basic Class with getting him in the helmet habit.

Lessons learned: Wear your helmet on snow, even if there's not a rock fall hazard. Pack a couple of roller bandages in your first aid kit, and learn how to tie them. Climb with people who have taken MOFA. Learn where the nearest hospital is. Avoid Gothic Basin.

Actually, the climbs in Gothic Basin (Del Campo and Gothic) were fun alpine climbs, a long trail, some snow, a little route finding, and easy scrambles at the end. There's nothing about Gothic Basin that makes it especially dangerous, and anyone hanging around the Basic Class has seen lots of slipping and sliding while plunge stepping. The harder snow in the summer is less forgiving of errors than the soft stuff in spring, but not exceptionally so. I've been to both peaks now and have low motivation to return more for that reason than any curse that might hover over the place. These last two climbs have been the closest to serious accidents in my climbing career, except maybe the avalanche in Norway. I'm starting to wonder if I'm getting too experienced for my own good.

*(Editor's note: Curse, hmmm - I've climbed Del Campo three times and Gothic once - on each of the trips I rather severely injured my knee (each time in different ways) on the descent. I avoid Gothic Basin as well now!)*

## **Big Al's Big Adventure, continued**

### **The Travels of Al Baal**

#### **Friday, July 21**

My Bike is behaving pretty well. The roads are so rough in Turkey that I have lost some hardware and had a flat tire. I have started checking my bike for parts that are getting close to falling off every other day.

I do miss following the US news and especially the stock market.

I must say my favorite food is the Donner Kabab. They have a great way of roasting Lamb or Chicken then it goes into a pita or some wonderful bakery fresh bread, with basil, tomato, onion, and some sort of special topping that is ever so softly spicy. The typical meal is: Bread, feta, olives, and cucumber.

As we rolled into Yalikavak (a coastal beach town), our main objective was to find a free campsite and good food to eat. We sort of missed on both by accepting an invitation to stay at the Yali Park Hotel. We were adopted by an Irish woman married to a Turkish actor. They were putting on an enactment of an earlier time in Turkey, when they could not heat their food, so we got to eat shikofte (a spicy raw meat dish). The highlight to the evening was the music using a simple big drum and a Zorna (those horns you see snake charmers use). But it went on well past midnight, and we were very sleepy, but not sleepy enough to sleep through a night of being on the sidewalk in an Anatolya hut (an old Turkey traditional straw hut) with tourist saying, "Look there are people in that hut. What are they doing there all night long?"

#### **Saturday, July 22**

So far, we have biked only once at night. We do not have very good maps, so distances are not so exact. Plus we are not sure of what hills we will be climbing over. We had just made it to the top of a small mountain pass at sunset. It was not easy in the heat, and with a full load to hump over. Trying to safely bike down the other side of the pass to a campground was utmost on our minds.

Just when we decided it was too dark to bike any more, we discovered a brand new international camping resort with the name of "My World Nature Action Camp". They were attempting to capture the college kids looking for adventure with climbing, mountain biking, and many other activities that they have planned out. We just wanted to eat and go to bed, but as we showered, we heard some wonderful Cuban music. Sure enough, the Cuban band Pimienta Negta was performing, with their 12 members, including 4 in their horn section, 3 in percussion and two very sexy dancers, who were very exciting to watch. The next day we visited the Iasus ruins, where we started a tradition of playing Hacky Sack at center stage of every Roman theater we came to. So far, we have hacked it up in 5 of them.

#### **Tuesday, July 25**

Istanbul is a wonderful place to visit. Yesterday I went to the Topkapi Palace, home to three centuries of Sultans. I had to pay extra to see where the Sultans housed their Harem, but I just had to see it. The first rooms you come to are the living quarters of the Black eunuchs. The chief eunuch was the sultan's personal representative in the running of the Harem and other important affairs of the state. In fact, he was the third most powerful official in the empire. Next we came to the Harem's outside courtyard. I could just imagine the ladies hanging out there, spending hours speculating on how they were ranked. The Queen mother had a big say in this. The usual stereotype has an army of gorgeous women petting and caressing, amusing and entertaining, and doing their best to exhaust a very pampered man. There is no denying that the sultan had it good, but every detail of Harem life was governed by tradition, obligation and ceremony. The sultan could not, unfortunately, just leap into a roomful of beauties and go at it.

I also went to see the Blue Mosque, which is of classic Ottoman design as it evolved over the centuries. Built in 1609, the mosque's breathtaking beauty shows what an impressive achievement it is.

## **Friday, July 28**

I could write about Turkey's history of almost 10,000 years, or those that inhabited this area as early as 7500 BC (The Stone Age). Or The Bronze Age (2600-1900 BC) when Anatolians first developed cities of substantial size and the Hittites who established themselves as a ruling class.

Or I could write about Turkey's more well known Trojan War of 1250 BC, the overwhelming conquests of Alexander the Great in 334 BC, and the Rise of the Roman Empire in 129 BC.

But no, my friends, this history has already been written. I will write about the world travel adventures of Al Baal, in the year 2000 AD.

As I rolled into a small town south of Soke, Turkey, I realized a film crew was waiting my arrival. As the film rolled and a digital camera was in use, I tried my best to answer the questions being asked of me by the interviewer, whose English was marginal. Later as the cheers from the locals were increasing, they told me that I was on TV and gave me articles from two different newspapers. After having them translated, I found out that I am a 39-year-old engineer that built my recumbent bike because I am disabled with a bad back.

Call it the heat, my rise to fame, or just fate, but somehow I got separated from Dan and Patty for a day and a half. That night I spent by myself next to a Shell gas station. I bought food and a big bottle of orange Fanta in exchange for a spot to camp. The Shell station had a shower that I used not only for myself, but all my dirty clothes. Little did I realize that in the pile of leaves next to me was also garbage, which as I was drifting off to sleep was attracting thousands of birds that started pooping everywhere. I quickly recovered my wash that was drying, and sat in my tent, totally amazed and rolling in laughter at my luck.

The next day I hosed off my tent, but left my bike trailer alone, because I wanted to show Dan and Patty the outcome from my feathered friends. I rolled into Selcuk, knowing that somewhere within the city, Dan and Patty would be. But after biking around and not finding them, I decided to get on the Internet. The first Internet sign I saw was at the Urkmez Central Budget Hotel, where I first met Jim, who became my best Turkish friend. He was always there for anything I needed. He helped me not only find Dan and Patty (through e-mail), but drove me over there on his scooter. Then two days later he invited us to a BBQ, and when we left he helped us straighten out a possible problem with getting our bikes on the train. But what impressed me most was his willingness to help me in whatever I needed. When I went to bring in my trailer, I asked him for something to clean off the bird poop from my trailer. He not only cleaned it for me; he carried it up to my room - what a guy! So if anyone is thinking of visiting Selcuk Turkey, I highly recommend staying at the Urkmez Central Budget Hotel.

Tonight we leave Turkey and head north to Bulgaria and then to Transylvania, Romania! Bye for now.

## **August 9**

The last email I wrote was from Istanbul Turkey. We stayed at Lydia's for several days, while Dan was recovering from his illness. We all took turns at getting sick. First it was Patty, then Dan, and then I got the traveler's crud. At Lydia's I watched DVD movies until 2 AM one night. We also played cards and drank Turkish tea until we were so wired that we started laughing at our caffeine high.

We took a midnight sleeper train from Istanbul to Sofija, Bulgaria. I think that there are still bad feelings between Turkey and Bulgaria because we were awakened 5 times to check our passports. In the morning, I really enjoyed looking out the window at the scenery from the bed of our sleeper train.

We spent two and a half days in Sofija checking out monuments, museums, and markets. I bought an extra tire and a Bulgarian wool army hat. We found a great breakfast place called Lucianos, that specialized in pancakes. Most of the pancakes came with all sorts of sweet things including ice cream. We had a wonderful first day of biking when we left Sofija, and headed north through the beautiful countryside. After the bad roads in Turkey, we were finally able to enjoy great roads in Bulgaria. It only took two days to make it to the ferry crossing into Romania at Orjahovo.

As soon as we crossed into Romania, I was fascinated by all the horses that were being used with old carts. It felt like stepping back into another time. Many of the houses looked very old without any plumbing, so we would see people making trips to the community well which is what we used to cool off by pouring water over our T-shirts. The two foods we enjoyed the most were the watermelon and the tomatoes, with fresh bread. Simple, but great eating just the same. In the little town of Vulturesti we meet Anka and Lavinia, two sisters that treated us to a disco club, where we danced until 2 in the morning. We were given dinner and breakfast by their mother and slept in their parent's bed - I have no idea why, but they insisted.

Several nights we camped on farmland. One night the farmer came up to our tents and said something to me. This woke me up and I repeated what he said. He must have said something like, "Get off my land you bastard." After I repeated something like "Get off my land you bastard" I saw that he started to pace, then he picked up a stick. At this point Dan took over before I could make matters worse. All Dan had to do was to show the farmer that we were just friendly Americans and not gypsies with any plans of stealing anything. He shook our hands and said "Bovo" (Good).

### **August 14**

Sometimes it's the people you meet on a trip that really makes it memorable. And there is no lack of memorable people in Romania.

I had found a nice shady spot to rest and wait for Dan and Patty to catch up, when along come this kid with perfect English and a number 24 Ken Griffey Jr. Mariner T-shirt. After chatting, I found out his name was Sergiu Groyavu, a 14 year old Romanian with a mind that goes full speed (sort of like some Engineers that I know). He asked permission to examine my bike, and I was so glad, because he noticed right away that one of my spokes was broken. Dan and Patty showed up just as a band of Gypsies were trying their best to get what they could from us - later on I wondered if the ring they were trying to sell us might have been good luck, but we quickly jumped on our bikes. As we rode off Sergiu decided to join us for a few hours of biking. I really do think Sergiu is a very bright lad, and he should have a good future given the chance. He ended up biking 50K with us, from his grandparent's where he was staying for the summer, to his home in Ramici Valcea. As we got close to his home, he kept saying, " my mom is going to kill me for biking this far". His mom wasn't home, and he didn't have his grandparent's phone number. We ended up sending him back in a taxi. He felt bad because it cost us 100 Romanian Lev, but to us it was less than 5 bucks.

My second memorable Romanian I ran into at the train station. For some reason, the train station would not sell me a ticket. As it came closer to the 5 AM departure time, I started to talk to myself in English, in hopes of finding someone that could translate for me. As I became more crazed at the possibility of missing my train, I found Bogdan. This is not the same Bogdan that some of you might know. This Bogdan works in Bucharest, where I was trying to go to catch my flight to Zurich. He found out that because the train was an hour late, they were holding off selling any tickets. We both ended up taking the bus, where we spent many hours talking about his visit to America and other things. He told me he studied Economics but the only job he found was in the police force. He said he was a cop, and that his friends called him Bobie. He told me that he wanted to show me around Bucharest, but flashbacks from an almost missed flight I had out of New York a few years back kept going through my mind. We zipped by subway first to pick up my airplane tickets, then we ate lunch while we watched a demonstration going on (Romanian cops know where the best demonstrations are!), then it was off to do some sight seeing. Suddenly I only had an hour before my flight. He wouldn't let me pay the rip off prices the taxi would charge to take me to the airport (a 50 minute trip). He called his girlfriend to come by to pick us up. But guess what happened?.....

The demonstration blocked us in. I was in a complete panic, but not my Bobie. We went by subway to meet her outside of the traffic jam. Once he got behind the wheel it was just like one of those movies where the cop drives like crazy, because he is a cop! Down one way streets the wrong way, through red lights, honking all the way. He even came into the airport and flashed his badge, so I could zip through customs and make my flight. Bobie is truly a memorable Romanian!

### **August 21, 2000**

I have returned to Switzerland, and the differences between Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania and here is very apparent. No longer do I see trash along side the roads and the bathrooms are so clean you can eat off the floors. On the other

hand. Swiss, like highly precision clocks, are organized to the max. The light switches in many bathrooms are timed, so if you take too long, you find yourself in the dark. Twice I have found myself not in compliance with the amount of time the Swiss feel one should take to finish a bowel movement and had to pay the price of finding my way out in the darkness. Thank goodness the bathrooms are clean.

If highly organized hikes are your thing, try going on a Volkswanderung. These are hikes that use cards that are stamped at several stations with nice refreshments along the way. You get extra points for bringing a friend along and each group has their own flag. The route is marked every 500 meters (one ribbon means you stay to the right, two, stay to the left) and at the end we were rewarded with a Swiss army knife.

In contrast, I attended a techno parade in Zurich. I was one of 700,000 attending. The idea was to wear skimpy techno like costumes (body painting with neon or metallic colors), and as little else as you dare. I walked around in my sheik headband. I saw lots of sexy men and women, letting their hair down. After all the over-organization I have witnessed in Switzerland, it was nice to see a little craziness.

I am staying with Luca again, and have taken the opportunity to work on my bike. The right pedal has somehow unscrewed half way and stripped itself. Thanks to Luca's workshop and all his tools, especially his dental cleaning tools, I was able to fix my pedal. I did make one major error in Luca's shop. After putting up with a loud generator for quite a while, I eventually turned it off. This turned out to be a big mistake, as Luca came rushing down from his dental office in a panic. The generator I turned off is used to run the respirator for his dental office – oops!

Locking one's bike up to prevent theft is always a good idea, but not everything on the bike can be protected. With quick release wheels that can easily be removed, the water bottle, or the mirror that wouldn't take much to steal, it is nearly impossible to protect every thing. That is until I discovered the ABSS (Al Baal security system). I have a pair of BIG underwear that has stretched to gigantic proportions. No one in there right would mess with my bike when I drape them over it, nearly covering the entire bike. After wearing them through my stomach problems they are so scary to look at, not even I like to get too close to them.

Tomorrow I head for Holland where theft is all too common, so stay tuned for more adventures. But it might be awhile before my next travel log, as it has been a long time since being with Michelle. One must have their priorities straight.

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## E-Climbing Links

Submitted by Doug Davies

<a href="http://www.cadvision.com/akane/climbs.htm">http://www.cadvision.com/akane/climbs.htm</a>	(Climbing in the Rockies)
<a href="http://www.climbersguide.com/rainier/">http://www.climbersguide.com/rainier/</a>	(Mt. Rainier climbing info)
<a href="http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~qtluong/mountain/yosemite/">http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~qtluong/mountain/yosemite/</a>	(Yosemite rock page)
<a href="http://www.mountainzone.com/">http://www.mountainzone.com/</a>	(Real time trip reports etc.)
<a href="http://www.mountaineers.org/">http://www.mountaineers.org/</a>	(The Mounties of course)
<a href="http://www.verticalworld.com/">http://www.verticalworld.com/</a>	(Vertical World indoor climbing gym)
<a href="http://www.cascadealpine.com/">http://www.cascadealpine.com/</a>	(Cascade alpine guides; trips and other info)
<a href="http://www.trekinfo.com/">http://www.trekinfo.com/</a>	(Nepal trekking info)
<a href="http://www.mountainmadness.com/index.htm">http://www.mountainmadness.com/index.htm</a>	(Mountain Madness; trips etc)
<a href="http://www.stonegardens.com/">http://www.stonegardens.com/</a>	(Stonegardens climbing gym)
<a href="http://www.mountainlight.com/gallery.html">http://www.mountainlight.com/gallery.html</a>	(Nice screensaver photos by Galen Rowell)
<a href="http://www.nps.gov/mora/">http://www.nps.gov/mora/</a>	(Rainier National Park home page)
<a href="http://www.wta.org/wta/">http://www.wta.org/wta/</a>	(Washington Trails Association)
<a href="http://traffic.wsdot.wa.gov/sno-info/">http://traffic.wsdot.wa.gov/sno-info/</a>	(Washington Pass report)
<a href="http://www.smarttrek.org/html/traffic_tv.html">http://www.smarttrek.org/html/traffic_tv.html</a>	(Northwest traffic)

## The Continuing Saga of Dan Goering

Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>: Buna from Brashov in the heart of Transylvania!

We've been in Romania since August 3rd after crossing the "Blue Danube" by ferry from Orjahovo, Bulgaria. But first allow me to skip back a few days further to Sophia, Bulgaria, which we reached by train from Istanbul just in time to celebrate my 35th birthday. We invited three young Dutch fellows to join us for the birthday dinner - a three-course extravaganza with several bottles of wine and an after dinner cognac for about \$10 each!

The highlight of Sophia was Luciano - a classy place specializing in sweet pancakes and good coffee. The interior is black with fuchsia trim, high white ceiling with chandeliers, waiters in white shirt and black bow tie and an old man pulling classical tunes out of an upright piano.

We had zero luck with museums though, as they were all either closed or relocated once we hunted them down. Instead, we played foosball and spent several hours shopping the sidewalk shops out front of Luciano's where you could buy a fascinating variety of antiques: soviet armed forces or railroad pocket watches, gramophones, brass telescopes, Nazi paraphernalia, blank KGB identity cards, furry black Russian army hats and much, much more.

Then it was north to Romania. We'd been hearing all sorts of stories from fellow travelers about the dangers of Romania: people desperately poor and hopeless, willing to do almost anything for money, roads with bicycle swallowing potholes and gangs of bandits that might stop us on the road. A Polish couple we met just before the border commented how to Romanians, we would just "shine of money" and to be alert. With a bit of apprehension, we pressed on.

There is only one bridge over the Danube between Bulgaria and Romania and it's not at Orjahovo. So we each paid \$6 (\$3 for us, \$3 for our "motorcycles") and rolled onto two large barges lashed together with steel cable and pushed across the Danube (which is actually green) by a tug boat. We shared this ride with about 10 semi trucks and a Bulgarian frozen fish salesman in his private car.

On the Romanian side, no one robbed us between the boat and passport control. Actually, the awning above the customs check was boldly emblazoned with "WELCOME TO ROMANIA" and after a thorough look at our passports, the officials sent us on our way with a hearty smile. So far, so good!

Our journey headed from the Danube northwards, following the Olt River through pastoral paradises and very much off the tourist route. As we rode, it struck me that I was perhaps seeing an environment similar to what my father knew in his youth. My dad grew up in rural eastern Nebraska in the late '30s and early '40s and said that though they were quite poor, he and his 6 siblings never really knew it because on the farm, there was always plenty to eat, though not too many luxuries. He tells stories about driving through the fields at night with the lights off (avoiding the game warden) and scooping up pheasants with a contraption they called the "dinglehooper" - a net on a long pole.

Rural Romania today must be similar, but with more of a Latin flair and romantic style than in down-to-earth Nebraska. You pass through a succession of quaint villages with lovely neat houses in pastel greens, blues and corals. Out front, the older men and women sit in the shade of plum and apple trees keeping an eye on the bands of geese and scattered chickens. Yards are shaded by dark purple grapes ripening on arbors and gardens are full of luscious red tomatoes, cucumbers and watermelons. Hot afternoons were made cooler by the open wells along the road, noisily cranking a big wood or metal wheel until you wound up enough chain for up a leaky bucket of cold clear water to appear.

The roads are paved, lined with rows of tall shady poplars and other trees, and in quite good shape. There is little traffic and many people still get about in weathered wooden wagons pulled by a horse, likely unchanged from hundreds of years back but for the addition of rubber tires. The drivers of the Romanian Dacia cars and the big blunt nosed ROMAN trucks are used to slow moving wagons and so our bicycles

didn't phase them either. Plenty of locals also get about by bicycle, often hauling a 50 pound bag of grain along, and I even saw a husband riding his wife and child on the back rack!

At least once a day, we'd run into a wagon of Gypsies, straight out of the movies, with some of the mysterious dark eyed men and women offering slices of watermelon, some offering big gold colored rings for sale and others straightforwardly begging for cold hard cash, producing their own fat wad to demonstrate what they wanted when we played a bit dumb.

At night, we'd camp near dusk next to a field trying to find a hidden spot and not let anyone see us arrive. They can't steal from you if they don't know you're there! Just outside Coteana this plan ceased to work. A man herding cows wandered by as we set up camp. Then just after crawling in our tent, a car drove by on the dirt road and then back by. An hour later, I awoke from a light sleep to a man talking loudly and a bit threateningly in Romanian. After a brief pause during which we tried to ignore him, he started yelling again and it became clear we would have to deal with him. Al and I both poked our heads out of the tent. I could see he had a big stick in his hand and Al wisely shown his headlamp on me so I would make a better target! But the minute he saw I was a foreigner, he became quite friendly and cried out "Bravo! Bun! Bun! (good, good)" and shook my hand before walking away. He was probably afraid we were gypsies planning to steal his grapes and other produce.

A night later in Vulturesti, we were adopted by the Dumitrescu family and got a glimpse into what goes on behind the gates of all those houses we'd ridden past. We had stopped at their store for a bread and sausage dinner and for a big mug of draft beer. Their daughters, Lawine (16) and Anka (17), spoke English well and after conversing a bit, we somehow crossed the line from customer to guest and found ourselves invited to stay the night.

We wheeled our bikes through the gate and into the dirt courtyard between the house and barn. Grandmother had her room in a corner of the barn. This short wizened woman in skirt, blouse and colorful head scarf had a warm, knowing smile with her two front teeth poking out. The main house was three stories with a peaked roof and nice wood work, just two years old and still being finished. No plumbing here, just the well in the yard and an outhouse out back. They did have an electric pump for the well. We ate a dinner of chicken, garlic sauce and polenta at a table under the awning of the barn and then, as it was Saturday night, the girl's mother, Maria, drove us all just down the road to the Elite Disco.

The parking lot was full of Romania's future, drinking and leaning on their parent's Dacia sedans. Inside, Romanian music blared and most did a sedate shuffle in the heat and toxic smoke atmosphere. Our hosts hung out at their corner "reserved" table and waved continually to friends arriving from around the area. Lawine is truly sweet 16 and is a smart girl, fully aware of her good looks. Her tight bright oh-so-pink disco suit insured a steady stream of admirers and she deftly juggled all the local boys vying for her attention, including her shirtless boyfriend. With us on the edge of collapse from fatigue, they got us a ride home, put us to bed and returned to the Elite to dance the rest of the night.

It was nearly noon the next day before we pulled ourselves sadly away with hugs all around after a big breakfast of eggs, fried fish, tomatoes and bread and a tour of the beautiful Orthodox church. Our next encounter was not far off.

Patty and I caught up with Al to find him lounging in the shade with Selgui, a 14 year old kid who spoke perfect English and had a decent mountain bike which he had mostly destroyed doing stunts over the past year. Selgui decided to accompany us for a bit and ended up riding nearly 50 km from his grandparent's house to his hometown of Ramnicu Valcea. This bright, inquisitive kid was great fun to have along and I have a feeling he'll go far in life. His grandparents and parents had no idea where he was and his mother wasn't back at his apartment when we got there around 8 p.m. The neighbor kids all mobbed around him, apparently impressed that he'd ridden that distance with some American tourists. We knew the parents would be really worried, as this kid had a penchant for injuring himself. He recovered last year from breaking his back while trying to jump over things on his roller blades. He was really whipped after the ride and we finally paid 100,000 Lei (\$5 bucks) to put him in a taxi back to grandma's place. I feel proud to have contributed to such youthful adventure!

Since then, we've toured through some almost too picturesque Transylvanian towns such as Sighisoara and Brashov with well preserved medieval centers and some great history. Sighisoara, for example, was where Hermann Oberst (father of modern rocket science and tutor of Werner von Braun) grew up! So Romania has been wonderful and, needless to say, we're not nearly so worried about our safety now. I was surprised to find that the language has some similarities to Spanish and that I could understand some of what was being said because of this.

Just last night after returning to Brashov from a visit to "Dracula's" castle in Bran, we were again adopted - this time by "Bebe" (a nickname) who spotted us in the square and invited us home, as he was treated quite hospitably himself while touring the US by bicycle and wanted to help out some fellow bicyclers in a similar manner. He should be out of his truck driving school now and is probably waiting for us at home, so I'd better be off. Tonight, we'll catch the train to the Hungarian border and then start riding towards Budapest. Thanks to everyone who sent news from home or travels and for tales of summer adventure in the Cascades!

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## **PUR filter Stop Top Recall...**

*(Editor's Note: This is taken directly from the PUR web site – for more info go to their page at <http://www.purwater.com/camping.shtml>)*

### **CONSUMER NOTICE**

This is to advise you of a potential problem with the Stop Top accessory Stop Top Cartridge that comes packaged with the PUR Voyager, Scout and Explorer water purifiers.

The Stop Top serves as a water bottle adapter plus reduces the iodine taste that may result from the purification process. However, recent testing has revealed variations in the carbon used in the Stop Top which could interfere with the purifier's ability to kill viruses in outdoor (untreated) water. Tests showed effectiveness against cysts and bacteria.

Purifier update kits will be available within the next few weeks. Consumers can receive a FREE kit by calling Recovery Engineering, Inc. at 1-800-319-7735.

In the meantime, consumers who already own PUR camping purifiers can still use them. In order to ensure full anti-virus efficacy, we advise you to remove the StopTop and follow use instructions for "How To Handle Difficult or Extreme Water Conditions" located in your Use and Care Manual. Briefly, the process involves the following four steps:

1. Disconnect the StopTop carbon filter and pump water into a temporary container at a rate of less than 10 strokes per minute.
2. Remove the inlet hose from the water source and pump the purifier until air comes out of the output hose.
3. Place the inlet hose into the temporary container and pump water into your water bottle or canteen at a rate of less than 10 strokes/minute.
4. Let the water stand for 20-minutes before consumption.

BY - LAWS  
of the  
BOEING EMPLOYEES' ALPINE SOCIETY

Revision 6 15 ~~May~~September, 2000

Article I - Name and Organization:

- Section 1. The organization shall be known as the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society, and by the acronym BOEALPS.
- Section 2. The organization shall be a non-profit corporation under laws of the State of Washington, Article of Incorporation file number 601-645-960, dated June 21, 1995, and any amendments thereto.

Article II - Officers:

- Section 1. The officers of the Boeing Employees' Alpine society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- Section 2. President
- a. The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings.
  - b. The President shall be chairman of the Board of Directors.
  - c. It shall be the President's privilege and duty to call extra business meetings, appoint committees not otherwise provided for and fill committee and protem vacancies.
  - d. The President shall perform such other duties as the office may require.
  - e. The President shall perform the duties of the Vice President in the latter's absence.
  - f. The President shall become immediate Past President upon the expiration of the term of office.
  - g. The President shall attend meetings of the Boeing Employees' Recreation Council as required by the council.
  - h. The President shall sign, with the Treasurer, contracts or bonds approved by the Board of Directors.
  - i. The President shall have the authority to sign checks issued by the corporation, when the treasurer is unavailable.

Article II - Officers: (Cont'd)

## Section 3 Vice President

- a. The Vice President shall oversee and coordinate the efforts of all major and special committees.
- b. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer and succeed to that office in case of emergency.
- c. The Vice President shall prepare, or review and approve prior to release, all news releases, meeting notices, posters and related material for club publicity and public relations.

## Section 4. Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all regular monthly and executive board meetings and shall read these at the next meeting or assure their publication in the monthly news letter.
- b. The Secretary shall provide a full copy of the By-Laws to the Recreation Unit and each member whenever amended. The Secretary shall provide copies of the By-laws or the Articles of Incorporation to members on request.
- c. The Secretary shall prepare official correspondence and club records and shall support other board members in this function when requested.
- d. The Secretary shall collect and maintain a file of official correspondence, publications and legal documents.

## Section 5. Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all financial transactions.
- b. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of the corporation, receive and disburse all money, subject to the will of the Board of Directors.
- c. Disbursement shall be made by check only. A checking account will be set up and the bank will honor only checks signed by the Treasurer or the President.
- d. The Treasurer shall maintain accounts and render financial reports at each meeting of the organization and of the Board of Directors. All financial records shall meet specifications set by the Boeing Recreation Unit.

Article II - Officers: (Cont'd)

## Section 5. Treasurer (Cont'd)

- e. The Treasurer shall submit a financial report to the Boeing Employees' Recreation Council as required by the council.
- f. The Treasurer shall see that an annual budget forecast is prepared and presented to the Boeing Employees' Recreation Council after approval by the Board of Directors.
- g. The Treasurer shall file all state and Federal tax statements required by law annually.

Article III - Standing Committees:

## Section 1. Membership Committee

- a. The Membership Committee shall provide information about the organization to prospective and new members.
- b. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson.
- c. The committee shall see that each new member is introduced at the first meeting the member attends.
- d. The committee shall maintain an up-to-date roster of members and submit copies to the membership and the Recreation Unit at least annually.

## Section 2. Activities Committee

- a. The Activities Committee shall promote and coordinate club activities. These shall include climbing, ski mountaineering, hiking, and other special activities as determined by the chairperson.
- b. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson.
- c. The committee may, at their discretion, decline to promote activities.
- d. The committee shall solicit advance information and follow-up reports to the News Committee for publicity and newsletters.

Article III - Standing Committees: (Cont'd)

## Section 3. Program Committee

- a. The Program Committee shall plan and schedule all regular and special meeting programs and shall assure that programs are properly publicized, coordinated and carried out.
- b. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson.
- c. The committee shall prepare program schedules and shall provide this information to the News Committee as necessary for advance publicity.
- d. The committee shall handle all arrangements for guest speakers including transportation, projection equipment and compensation when appropriate.

## Section 4. News Committee

- a. The News Committee shall prepare and distribute information for internal communication among club members.
- b. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson.
- c. The committee shall publish and distribute, at least once each month, a news letter informing members of current club affairs.

## Section 5. Equipment Committee

- a. The Equipment Committee shall be responsible for club owned equipment.
- b. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson.
- c. The committee will be responsible for maintaining an accurate inventory and the location of equipment so that members can easily make reservations for its use.
- d. The chairman shall make recommendations for the repair of existing equipment and new equipment acquisitions for approval by the Board of Directors, the Recreation Unit and the membership as required by Article IV., Section 2., Paragraph b., and Article IX., Section 2.
- e. The committee shall make the equipment inventory known to the membership at least annually through the club newsletter.

Article III - Standing Committees: (Cont'd)

## Section 6. Conservation Committee

- a. The Conservation Committee shall keep the club informed on conservation issues.
- b. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson.
- c. The committee shall prepare official statements on conservation issues for approval by the Board of Directors.
- d. The chairman or a delegate shall attend conservation hearings and events of importance and represent the views of the club with the approval of the Board of Directors.

## Section 7. Library Committee

- a. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson..
- b. The committee will make recommendations to the Executive Board for approval regarding books and periodicals acquisition.
- c. The committee shall make provision for filing, check-out and return of all properties acquired by the library.
- d. The committee will actively solicit the donation of material for the library.
- e. The committee shall make the general contents of the library known to the membership at least annually through the club newsletter.

## Section 8. Education Committee

- a. The committee shall consist of a chairperson and all volunteers accepted by the chairperson..
- b. The committee will coordinate the educational activities of the club, outside of the Basic and Intermediate Mountaineering Classes, provide an interface between the Board of Directors and the Basic and Intermediate Classes as necessary, and recruit seminar instructors and assist in advertising and organizing seminars as required.

Article IV - Board of Directors:

Section 1. Members

- a. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and immediate Past President shall be members of the Board of Directors.
- b. A Recreation Supervisor assigned by The Boeing Company shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors but shall have no voting privileges.

Section 2. Duties

- a. The members of the Board of Directors shall be the official Directors of the Corporation and shall have all the responsibility and authority provided by the Articles of Incorporation.
- b. The Board of Directors shall oversee all operating expenditures, promotion of activities, and the general government of the organization. Acquisition of any property, real, personal or interest therein in excess of \$500 per item shall be referred to the membership at a regular or special meeting.
- c. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once every three months. The President shall set the date and time of the meeting.
- d. The Board of Directors shall approve appointments by the President to fill unexpired terms of officers.

Article V - Meetings:

Section 1. Regular meetings shall be held once each month. Regular meetings may be canceled or re-scheduled by the Board of Directors provided members are notified at least one week in advance.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called at any time as provided for in Article II., Section 2., Paragraph c.

Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.

Section 4. A quorum shall be present at a special or regular meeting before official business or elections can be conducted.

- a. For the Purpose of establishing a quorum, a family shall be considered as one member.
- b. A quorum for regular or special meetings shall be fifteen (15) percent of the total membership or the average number of members attending the preceding two regular meetings, whichever is less.

Article V – Meetings (Cont.):

- Section 4. Quorum (Cont.):
- c. A quorum for the Board of Directors meetings shall be fifty (50) percent of the total board membership.
- Section 5. A majority of the members voting at any regular or special meeting shall be required to pass on all motions except as stated in Article VI., Section 2., in Article VII., Section 3 and Article VIII., Section 6. For purposes of establishing this majority, a paid membership shall have one vote except as stated under Article VII., Section 1., Paragraph e.

Article VI - Amendments:

- Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by the distribution of the proposed amendment to all members in writing at least one week prior to the special or regular meeting of the organization at which the amendment is to be considered.
- Section 2. A two-thirds majority of the members voting shall be required to adopt an amendment. Any proposed amendment not adopted by a two-thirds majority at the meeting at which it is initially considered shall be considered at the next regular meeting, at which time it shall require a two-thirds majority vote to be adopted
- Section 3. Written notice of the meeting shall be given at least one week prior to the meeting at which the amendment is voted upon.
- Section 4. All proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Recreation Unit for clearance before final consideration by the membership at a regular or special meeting.
- Section 5. Each time these By-Laws are amended, a copy shall be sent to each member and the Recreation Unit by the Secretary.

Article VII - Membership:

- Section 1. Membership shall be open to the following, without regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, or national origin. All other proposed membership shall be subject to prior clearance through Recreation Unit:
- a. Boeing employees
  - b. Retired Boeing employees
  - c. Vendor, customer and military service representatives stationed at The Boeing Company who carry a permanent Boeing badge
  - d. Spouse and dependent children of above members

Article VII - Membership: (Cont.)

## Section 1. (Cont.)

- e. Other persons on the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society roster shall be termed "Friends of BOEALP'S." They shall be charged an annual fee covering expenses for the Newsletter, meetings, and other club activities. The "Friends of BOEALP'S" may enjoy all privileges extended to members except voting and holding a position as an elected officer in the club.
1. Candidates show they are a benefit to BOEALPS and The Boeing Company.
  2. Candidates must submit a written request to the board which explains why they wish to join the club and what they will do to benefit the club.
  3. The request must include an employee club member in good standing as a sponsor.
  4. After review by the elected board, the candidate may be elected in by majority vote.
  5. The BOEALPS club will submit a form to The Boeing Company Recreation Unit requesting the candidate be added to the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society roster under the title "Friends of BOEALP'S".

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall determine dues. They shall be payable yearly on January 1 and shall be delinquent on March 1. One (1) dollar from each paid membership's dues shall be applied towards the principle of the Agriss Moruss fund.

Section 3. The Board of Directors may expel members from the organization for cause. Expulsion may be appealed to the general membership at a regular or special meeting, with a two-thirds vote of those in attendance required to reverse an expulsion.

Section 4. Persons who are eligible for membership but has not paid current membership dues may be considered guests for occasional meetings or activities. Frequent or regular attendance of club functions by such persons for a period of three months or more shall be considered evidence of interest in the club. The Membership chairperson must notify this Person that current dues are payable and they shall not be eligible to participate in club functions or to enjoy benefits offered by the club after one month from such notice until dues are paid.

Article VIII - Elections:

- Section 1. The offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be filled by election at the first regular meeting in September. The new officers shall assume their duties at the first meeting in October.
- Section 2. Nominations for officers shall be taken at the August general meeting. Nominations from members attending the September meeting shall also be recognized and voted upon. Each nominee shall agree to serve if elected before that name may be submitted as a candidate for office.
- Section 3. To be eligible to hold the office of President, Vice President, or Treasurer, a person must be a Boeing employee and a member in good standing. To be eligible to hold the office of Secretary, a person must be either a Boeing employee or retiree and a member in good standing.
- Section 4. No member is eligible to hold more than one elective office at a time ~~or to be retained in the same office more than one year consecutively.~~ Board members may be re-elected to the same position for up to three years.
- Section 5. Members may elect to cast their votes by a show of hands or by secret ballot.
- Section 6. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be considered elected.

Article IX - General provisions:

- Section 1. Property or equipment purchased by the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society with Boeing employees' Alpine Society funds shall not be considered the property of any individual member or group of members, but shall be known as Club Property.
- a. As Club Property, it shall be entrusted to the custodial care of the Equipment Chairperson as provided for in Article III.
  - b. In the event that the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society ceases to exist as a corporate body, Club Property shall revert to such Recreation Unit, to be handle in a suitable manor until further group interest and use is indicated.
  - c. All equipment checked out and assigned to members by the Equipment Chairperson shall be the responsibility of the member regarding loss, negligent use, willful destruction, etc. Compensation for the foregoing will be subject to determination by the Board of Directors. Compensation shall not exceed replacement cost of an item at issue or cost of a comparable piece of equipment. The members will waive all legal rights whatsoever should the Board of Directors determine redress or compensation by the member is appropriate after a hearing of the facts. Any equipment transferred without the prior approval of the Equipment Chairperson will remain the responsibility of the last listed as in possession of the equipment..
- Section 2. Acquisition of any property, real, or interest therein, in excess of \$500 per item, shall receive prior clearance through the Recreation Unit.
- a. Real property shall be defined as land or buildings.
  - b. Interest therein property shall be defined as that property which is leased or rented.
- Section 3. The fiscal year for the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society shall be from January 1 to December 31, inclusive. All budgeting and financial accounting shall be rendered on this basis.

We, the undersigned, officers of the Boeing Employees' Alpine Society, a Washington non-profit corporation, do hereby certify: The foregoing By-Laws were adopted by the corporation on the 15th day of ~~May~~September, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Harrison, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norene Borg, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward Alejandro, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenn Tomchik, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Baldwin, Past-President

Dated \_\_\_\_\_  
at Seattle, Washington

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Davis  
Recreation Advisor  
The Boeing Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name(s)),  
certify that I am aware of all the inherent dangers of mountaineering, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in mountainous terrain, accidents, or illness in remote places without medical facilities, the forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons.

I understand that it is not the function of the activity leaders to serve as the guardians of my safety. I also understand that I am to furnish my own personal equipment and I am responsible for its safety and good operating condition regardless of where I obtained it. I understand and agree that neither the Boeing Employees Alpine Society (BOEALPS) nor its officers, agents, operators, instructors, leaders of club sponsored activities, other assistants and the Boeing Company may be held liable in any way for any occurrence in connection with club activities which may result in injury, death, or other damages to me. In consideration of being allowed to participate in club activities, **I HEREBY PERSONALLY ASSUME ALL RISKS** in connection with said activities, and **I RELEASE** the aforementioned club, officers, agents, operators, instructors, activity leaders and assistants from responsibility for any harm which may befall me while I am engaged in club activities, including all connected risks, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable. **I FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY** the aforementioned entities and Company and persons from any liability, claims, and causes of action which I may have arising out of my enrollment and participation in this club.

I further state that I am 18 years of age or older and legally competent to sign this release (or in the event that I am a minor, my parent or legal guardian must sign this release), that I understand these terms are contractual and not a mere recital, and that I have signed this document as my own free act. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assignees, personal representatives, and for all members of my family, including any minors.

**I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Additional Family:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PRASH BHAT, M/S 04-JJ  
OR: 23227 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Edmonds, WA 98020  
OR: prashantha.bhat@pss.boeing.com

NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY

ALPINE ECHO



***September ECHO staff***

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: Aggie, Al Baal,  
Dan Goering, David Hamilton,  
Doug Davies

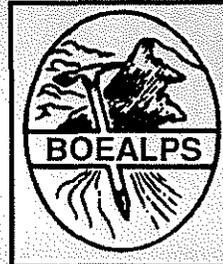
*I'm always looking for more contributions! If you  
have any submissions - anything vaguely  
mountaineering or outdoors related will do -  
email them to me at  
matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in  
inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices  
will work, give me a call at  
(425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

October 2000



## BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY

President	Bill Harrison	206-662-2487 william.l.harrison@boeing.com	Equipment South	Mike Jacobsen	206-544-5689 michael.t.jacobsen@boeing.com
Vice President	Norene Borg	425-237-6991 Lilbiner@hotmail.com	Central	Silas Wild	206-527-9453 silaswild@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ed Alejandro	425-865-2217 ed.alejandro@boeing.com	North	Andy Roth	425-342-1308 andrew.s.roth@boeing.com
Secretary	Glenn Tomchik	425-234-5141 glenn.a.tomchik@boeing.com	Librarian	Vacant	
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			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: "October Sunrise, Columbia Crest" by Mike Jacobsen

From Prash Bhat 04-JJ



## The Boealps Annual Banquet With Featured Speaker Jim Wickwire!

**Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-10:30 pm**  
**The Mountaineer's Clubhouse**  
**300 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue West**  
**(Just West of Key Arena)**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **Welcome to Our New Board!**

In an election that wasn't nearly as hotly contested as anything in the recent Washington primaries, a new slate of Officers was installed for Boealps. Norene Borg accepted a promotion from Vice President to President this year, and Dan Costello will help her out in the Vice President Position. Glenn Tomchik becomes the new club treasurer, and Dave Hamilton has accepted the position of club secretary. Thanks to all who volunteered to help guide the club, and thanks to those who showed up at the elections to nominate, vote, eat and drink!

## **New Club Bylaws**

Both amendments to the club's bylaws were approved at the September elections. The first change allows board members to hold their positions for up to three terms, subject to being re-elected each September. The second change had to do with taxes – the club generates enough revenue so that we now have to file yearly tax statements. The change to the bylaws authorized the new club treasurer to file the appropriate tax forms on behalf of the club each year. Special thanks goes to Glenn Tomchik for accepting the treasurer position this year, and dealing with this new responsibility.

## **Upcoming Events...**

Don't forget the annual banquet coming up on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Jim Wickwire will be the featured speaker, and I've heard he puts on an excellent presentation. The banquet reservation form is included in this issue for those of you who wait for the last moment.

Also – don't forget that the fall campout has changed locations – it will be held up in Winthrop this year at the Lake Pearygin campground. Excellent sport climbing is to be had around Mazama (Fun Rock and Goat Wall are two of the better destinations), and Washington Pass is only 30 minutes away, with outstanding alpine climbing opportunities, along with some beautiful hiking this time of year (Cutthroat Pass will be awesome if the weather cooperates). The best climbing guidebook for the area is Bryan Burdo's "North Cascades Rock: Sport and Alpine Routes" – Marmot and the climbing gyms have copies for sure, REI might as well. Recommended routes (all the following are documented in Burdo's guide) at Fun Rock are: Cream, a nice 5.7 introduction to climbing in the area; Two Bolts or Not 10B (10b), best done as a top rope, as there's groundfall potential at the second clip; Steppenruf (10b), a wild climb pulling two roofs that's easier than it looks once you know the secret; Pelthora (10b), where you'll burn yourself out trying to find the best hold among a sea of too many; and for the truly hard core amongst you, Arapilesian Dog (12a), something I can only hope to aspire to some day! The best climb in the area, though, has to be the Methow Inspiration Route on Goat Wall - five pitches at 5.9+ (take the plus seriously), it's all bolted, features some great climbing (with sometimes funky bolt placements) and outstanding views. It may be heresy, but I enjoyed it more than Outer Space!

## **Late Echo?**

My apologies for how late last month's Echo arrived. The mailing label got torn off of the master copy I send to repro, so it floated around in inplant limbo for a couple of days before being returned to me. I rushed it right back up to repro after that, but they were having problems with their printers, and all print jobs that week ended up running very late. If it's getting late in the month, and you haven't received your Echo yet, remember to check our web site at <http://www.boealps.org> – I send Rob (our beloved web master!) all the Echo info via email, so it can't get lost or delayed by uncooperative machines! He'll have all the new stories and activities information up on the web site about a week before you get your paper copy. You'll need the password (SLESSE) to access the activities page.

From the desk of your editor,

Matt Robertson

***November Echo deadline is October 19<sup>th</sup>***

## October, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> (No General Club Meeting!)	<b>6</b> Fall Campout (Winthrop)	<b>7</b> Fall Campout (Winthrop)
<b>8</b> Fall Campout (Winthrop)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Board Meeting	<b>13</b> Full Moon	<b>14</b> Ice Climbing Seminar
<b>15</b> Ice Climbing Seminar	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Echo deadline	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Mt. Baker crevasse rescue refresher
<b>22</b> Mt. Baker crevasse rescue refresher	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> New Moon	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Halloween				

## November, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> General Club Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Election Day – Get Out and Vote!	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Board Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Full Moon Veteran's Day
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Echo deadline	<b>23</b> Thanksgiving	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> New Moon
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

hikes ● scrambles ● ski trips ● climbs ● other

## **Coleman Glacier, Mount Baker**

**October 21-22**

### **"Drop your rocks and grab your socks"**

We'll do crevasse rescue both days with hot chocolate and a cranked boombox in the crevasse. Brush up on old skills. This will be done both days so bring overnight gear if you plan on spending the night.

**Party Limit** 12  
**Route** Coleman Glacier approach (be prepared for snow/ice and glacier travel)  
**Equipment** Glacier travel, crevasse rescue, overnight gear (if staying the night).  
**Experience** Basic class graduate  
**Contact** David Hamilton, dhamilton@museumofflight.org

## **Bobabies Ride the Santa Train**

**December 3**

It's time to think about the Santa Train ride for the Bobabies and kids of all ages! It was an awful lot of fun last year, so please join us for a ride on the Santa Train on Sunday, December 3 at 9am. This is a 20 train minute ride from North Bend to Snoqualmie with cookies, cocoa, and St. Nick (and construction equipment, which was Bryden's favorite) waiting in Snoqualmie. The grand finale is the 20 minute train ride back to North Bend.

Ticket cost is \$9 in advance (\$10 the day of the event) and you can call the Santa Train Hotline at (425)888-2206 to purchase. The 9 am train worked great last year, as there was parking and train space available, but please plan to be there by 8:40 as parking space is limited. Tickets sell out early, so even though it's only October, think about getting your tickets soon!

More information is available at <http://www.trainmuseum.org/Train.htm>.

**Party Limit** None  
**Route** North Bend to Snoqualmie and back  
**Equipment** Warm jackets and cameras  
**Experience** Need to be able to entertain 3 year olds for a 20 minute train ride  
**Contact** Maren Robertson, the.robertsons@gte.net, 425-822-0455(h)

Submit activities to: **Ilan Angwin**  
**206-729-0640**  
**iangwin@hotmail.com**

**Come on! We need some more  
fall trips – sign up to lead your  
favorite!**

# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

*Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!*

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please note:** all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

## **Submit activities to**

Ilan Angwin  
206-729-0640  
iangwin@hotmail.com



# Boealps Annual Banquet



**Friday, September 29, 2000**

**The Mountaineers  
300 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave W  
(just west of Key Arena)**

**Tickets: \$25 for members/non-members**

After a three-year absence, we decided to return to the Mountaineers, and this banquet promises to be better than ever!

- A dual entrée, three-course dinner with your selections from the following:
  - Appetizer (spanikopita, macadamia canapé , or polenta-stuffed mushrooms)
  - Second course (Northwest wild greens or classic Caesar salad)
  - Main course (Artichoke salmon, sun dried tomato chicken, halibut, or prime rib)
- "Visions of Wickwire", a 15-minute Boealps play dedicated to our speaker
- Door prizes galore

Guaranteed to be a great evening of fun, or your money back (assuming we haven't spent it)

## Banquet Speaker – Jim Wickwire

As if having a full-time career as an attorney and a home life with a wife and five children aren't enough, throw in numerous first ascents, ranging from Washington State to the Himalaya, and you have a rare specimen: Jim Wickwire. The list of first ascents is staggering, including the East Rib (1963) and the West Rib (1970) of the Willis Wall on Mt. Rainier (plus numerous other Rainier firsts), Mt. Fairweather in Alaska (1974), the Great Gendarme on Mt. Stuart (1964), and perhaps his crowning achievement, the first American ascent of K2 (1978). He also attempted Denali with Stimson Bullitt in 1980 via the West Buttress, and he nearly made the North Ridge of Everest in 1982. As recently as April this year, he made a trip to Patagonia for another mountaineering expedition. Wickwire wrote his memoir, "Addicted to Danger," published in 1998, which saw instant success in the Northwest.

## Banquet Schedule

6:00	Arrival/social
7:00	Buffet dinner
8:00	Coffee & dessert - past/new Board, door prizes, etc.
8:45	"Visions of Wickwire", a 15-minute play
9:00-10:30	Banquet speaker – Jim Wickwire



# Boealps October Campout

- Where:** Pearrygin Lake near Winthrop
- When:** October 7 - 8, 2000
- Who:** All club members, families, friends.
- What:** Rock Climbing, Hiking, Cycling, Bragging, Lounging.
- How:** Return the attached form by October 3<sup>rd</sup> or e-mail your confirmation. Please bring a food item to share with the other members for the Saturday night potluck dinner.
- Directions:** From Winthrop, make a left at a four way stop in the middle of town onto Chewuch Rd. Follow this road two miles to Pearrygin Lake road and make a right. Follow signs to the State Park.

**Note:** Due to budget cuts, Boealps will not supply food this year!

- Rules:** A quiet sleeping area will be reserved for members who want an early bedtime. Please ask where it is before setting up your tent. Loud and wild behavior will be limited to just after 10 pm. Please note that some people will stay up very late around the ol' campfire.

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## October Campout Response Form

(RSVP requested by Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Potluck Dish: \_\_\_\_\_

Send response to: Ilan Angwin  
Mail: 110 NE 62<sup>nd</sup> St.,  
Seattle, WA 98115

E-mail: iangwin@hotmail.com



**Pearrygin Lake**



## **CONSERVATION CORNER**

By Troy Colyer

The National Marine Fisheries Service revoked approval August 25 for the Army Corps of Engineers to deepen 103 miles of the Columbia River's shipping lane. New studies show dredging will hurt endangered salmon. Meanwhile, a preliminary report by independent scientists in Portland, Oregon, estimates the Corps barged or trucked over 85 percent of all baby salmon and steelhead on the Snake River this year. Environmentalists and Columbia River Indian tribes say transporting salmon harms them.

Still, the Northwest's most endangered salmon run made a comeback this year. In the past 10 years, only 16 wild sockeye salmon survived the 900-mile swim up from the Pacific Ocean and past eight major dams. This year's hatchery breeding program brought 222 sockeye home to Redfish Lake in Idaho.

For once, dismantling a dam in the Northwest is a simple decision. Everyone agrees the Goldsborough Dam in Shelton, Wash., no longer generates electricity and is falling apart. Yet it continues to block salmon runs. Now, the state, the dam owner, and the Army Corps of Engineers have agreed to pay for breaching.

If George W. Bush is elected president, the West's newest national monuments might become un-monuments. Republican vice presidential nominee Dick Cheney recently criticized Clinton for creating monuments "willy-nilly all over the West," and suggested that a Bush administration might try to rescind the designations.

*--Excerpted from the High Country News*

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## **September Board Meeting Minutes**

In attendance were Silas Wild, Bill Harrison, Dan Costello, Ed Alejandro, Rich Baldwin, Norene Borg, Glenn Tomchik, David Hamilton, Sean Pare, Prash Bhat at Bill Harrison's house.

Board discussed possibilities for January 19th weekend outing to Winthrop Lodge including cost and notification to members.

Past board spoke with present board on various tasks and functions of each position. There was no paddle initiation, and it was determined that the secretary did not have to wear a skirt or make coffee.

Board spoke on tax issues trying to determine what to file and if consultation would be available, perhaps through other Boeing groups having to do the same filing.

Ed Alejandro discussed the Wickwire banquet on the 29th. It was agreed that Rich Baldwin would check out the audio/visual status for the slide show. David Hamilton agreed to be the door person.

Board also discussed possibilities for the position of the Basic Climbing Class head instructor. The current head offered consultation services when not tending to bottle feeding duties. Also discussed were the possibilities for the Intermediate Class head instructor.

Board discussed attendance, member retention due to attrition rate, how the Basic Class affects the financial status of the club as a whole, and possible advertisements within Boeing news channels to increase BoeAlps awareness throughout Boeing.

David Hamilton, Secretary

## Short Trip Reports

### By David Hamilton

#### August 26-27, Mt. Adams, South Ridge

It takes longer than it looks on the map for the drive here; there's 12 miles of dirt road and about 30 miles of one lane (for both directions) travel. Self register and head up to Cold Springs campground, a rather rough road if you're taking a car. We car camped there Friday night. We hiked for a whopping three hours with full packs before reaching the lunch counter. There are quite a few spots to camp here. Had I known how short the hike was, I would have brought the lawn chair and beer cooler to pass away the time. We woke up and started the climb at the super-early time of 8am. Saw a few folks glissading down with crampons on. You'll need crampons to get up in the morning, probably not if you start towards noon. The hike was another whopping three hours long with a lunch break at the false summit. This is an easy day hike.

#### September 3, The Tooth

Went up there with the mighty Dave Hagen. We were supposed to go with the Rock Mobster, but I was late. Follow the Source Lake trail, it's easier. The approach is two hours long for those that take that trail. We chose to take the scenic route. Oh, well. Pineapple Pass is a breeze, a little bit of scrambling to get to the base, be careful. The climb is a blast and is straightforward. Bring long slings because you zig-zag up. Beware if you choose the catwalk on the final pitch, it's solid but unprotected until you reach the crack, about 20-30 feet up and away from your belay. Nice raps down except when you get caught in the rain/sleet and lightning.

#### September 10, Liberty Bell, Beckey Route

I went on this climb with Paul Cook who is another awesome climber. We drove up through pouring rain on Sunday to hit the parking lot. No rain but everything was still wet. The approach is strenuous and takes a couple of hours. As noted in the book, beware if a party is ahead of you in the gully as rockfall WILL happen as people ascend it. The climb starts off relatively easy and straightforward. We went in our mountaineering boots. All three pitches were long ones. The second pitch has a piton in the rock on this chimney. I couldn't make it to that ledge with the piton so I went down a bit and climbed an easier section to reach that ledge. As we climbed the day got better and the rock was dry, it was even sunny in the afternoon. Paul led the third pitch for which I thank him. It was a tough one and I couldn't make the difficult 5.6 move up and to the left before the friction slabs. I prusiked up after repeated failed attempts. We didn't finish the scramble to the top because we felt it was getting late and we didn't know where the rap bolts were. There are plenty of rap points if you bring one rope. We brought two so it was one rap down. We hit the trail just in time for darkness. This is a classic climb with great views.

#### September 16-17, Sahale Peak, Qien Sabe Glacier

Tom Ryan organized this trip and provided most of the equipment necessary to accomplish the goal. Don Fraser and I were the only people who wanted to go, another great BoeAlps turnout for the only trip listed in the Echo for a while. We wanted to add Sharkfin Tower in as well. The trail is bushwhacking and then goes up steeply, no fun in the drizzle coming down, before finally reaching somewhat of a normal trail consistency. We were shrouded in fog the whole way. We pitched our tent and made for Sharkfin. We took the scenic route there and wound up at the base of Sharkfin later than we wanted to. We turned around and did a two rope rap off a ledge. The rope wouldn't budge and fearless Tom climbed up and got the rope to come down. We had good photo ops during the day, but the rap ended just at dusk. We descended via glissades and used the handy GPS to find our way back to camp. Just having an altimeter helps out significantly because you need to traverse up/down over a few ridges to reach camp. The next day we headed for Sahale Peak for what started to be a nice day. The clouds came from high and then they came from low to make it a whiteout on the glacier. The glacier is short and sweet with a few crevasses. Easy to moderate scrambling to reach the summit. Why is the summit labeled "Boston"? Rap rings to get down. Nice cornices. Definitely bring wands to help get down with. Thanks Don and Tom.

## The Continuing Saga of Dan Goering

Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>: Greetings from Cortina Italy in the heart of the Dolomite mountains!

Fall weather here has been pretty good and Patty and I were out almost every day last week doing a couple rock climbs and a number of "via ferrata" climbs – routes where they protect all the scary sections with steel cable so you don't have to carry a rope and rack. Great fun and keeps the pack light!

Route finding here is quite different than at home in the Cascades. On the via ferratas, you just follow the cable and where the cable isn't around, just follow the dots of red paint that are splashed on numerous rocks along the way. Not many of the rock climbs have the red paint, but I've found that when the route isn't clear I can just follow the trail of cigarette butts to the next belay.

We still have the bikes but haven't used them much since renting a "Smartcar" from Avis in Innsbruck, Austria on our way back from collecting our climbing gear from friends Wolfgang and Edith in Dornbirn. It's a tiny, sporty 2-seat convertible and we get lots of looks from curious people wherever we go. It's ours for the next month and sure beats pedaling back to camp in the dark after a long day in the mountains.

Cortina is a rather touristy town and rather expensive, so home has been our little blue tent in "Camping Cortina" with a white plastic bench borrowed from the playground and a small blue milk crate "table" fished out of a dumpster. But the showers are hot and it's great not having to take down the tent and put it back up every single day. Rather stable after the long weeks of biking!

On the way here on our last night in Slovenia, we stopped at a church near dusk to talk about where our best chance to find camping or a room might be. An older woman across the road came over to see if she could help and boy did she! We explained we just needed a place to put up our tent and she said that she had a "Zimmer Frei" which is German for accommodation in a private house. We asked how much it would cost as we were headed into Italy in the morning and low on local currency. Her reply: "It's free. You'll be my guests!" Angelica Bohinc was indeed an angel to us, giving us a comfortable bed in her extra room and feeding us a great breakfast the next morning with honey that is at least as good or better than the amazing dark sourwood honey that you can occasionally buy from the Snoqualmie Honey Farm vendor in Pike's market when they've traded with their east coast counterparts. We raved about how good it was and she ended up sending us on our way with the whole jar. As we said our good-bye's, she asked where we would sleep that night. We had no idea and her quite accurate reply was "Only God knows where you'll sleep"!

Riding across Slovenia is a wonderful experience with quiet roads winding through wooded river valleys and tiny towns. In wine country near Jursinci we tried to follow a sign we thought was directing people to a tourist winery. Up a long hill, picking up ripe peaches and apples fallen along the lane, we finally topped out with no winery in sight. Patty asked some road workers if there was one about and they said you could knock on any door and buy wine.

I'm not sure I believe in Fate but I do wonder sometimes. We pedaled up to a house halfway back down the hill which turned out to be the birthplace of Slovenian Janez Puh, the inventor of the modern "safety" bicycle back in 1885. Before Mr. Puh, people rode around on those bikes with the gigantic front wheels that were quite hazardous to both start and stop. Mr. Puh made his bike with 2 equal size tires and a chain drive and the photo of his first creation in the family's basement museum looked pretty much identical to our bikes parked out front including the curved "racing" handlebars on my Nishiki. Mr. Puh eventually started a factory in Graz, Austria under the name of "Puch" and you still see plenty of people riding around on "Puch" motorscooters. The family's daughters Simone (16) and Jarnea (17) spoke good English and we talked as we sampled a nice Riesling and ate small sandwiches their mother prepared for us. We finally pedaled away with panniers two bottles of wine heavier.

We later spent several days in the capital of Ljubljana with Bostjan and Marjeta Trobis and Bostjan's parents. I met Bostjan in South America last February on Aconcagua and we had a great time getting to

know each other a bit better and getting a glimpse of their life in Slovenia. The easternmost part of the Alps extends into Slovenia and is known as the "Julian Alps". We hope to get back there before leaving Europe and have a go at their highest peak, Mt Triglav. Bostjan gave us both Triglav T-shirts which he sometimes hikes up to the summit to sell and I suppose we should really go up there before we can wear them in good conscience.

Lots more has happened since then including a visit to friends Wolfgang and Edith in Dornbirn who were storing our climbing gear for us all summer since we had mailed it to them from Amsterdam on the way to Turkey. But Internet here is pricey and we still need to figure out how to load 2 bikes onto our tiny Smartcar for the great transfer of camp to the nearby town of Corvara, so I'll end here for now.

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## **Big Al's Big Adventure, continued**

### **The Continuing Travels of Al Baal**

#### **Wednesday, August 30**

I arrived at the Amsterdam airport at 5 PM. I knew that in order to find a place to stay I had to put my bike together in record time. As things do have a way of working out I did break my record in bike assembly. Off I go to find the perfect hotel in Amsterdam.

It did not work out as planned - everything was booked or overpriced. I decided to camp, but with the darkness, jet lag, and all the canals, I just keep going around in circles. After asking just about everyone along the way, I finally find a campground. As I pitched my tent, the smell of marijuana was so thick I had no problem falling to sleep.

The next day, on my way to meet Michelle, nine small parts of my gears fell off, giving me an hour of frustration finding all the parts and getting my bike working again. After meeting up with Michelle we headed for Haarlem, where the St. Bavokerk church (beautifully decorated with a 1738 Muller organ that was a favorite of Mozart), dominates the Grote market. We bike along the western coast following dunes to a nice campground where we pitched our tent next to the woman's bathroom. I was so shocked at how little the woman would wear on their way in that I had to wear my sunglasses to hide my eyes. The windmills are a tradition in Holland that I find interesting to check out, and I got a kick out of asking for directions. Everyone would spend a lot of time sending us down the verd next to the gred ven wis bad nerd den vic ven verd path and turn nerd den. Good thing I had my compass with me. The next night was spent in Dordrecht, my favorite Holland town so far. With its 17th century architecture, and all the canals, boats, and hidden courtyards, it was a place that I should have spent more time at. The next night was in Zundert, with its rich history and windmills making it a nice place to visit. The picturesque Dutch Reformed Church (1806) is located here, and is where the father of Vincent van Gogh baptized him. Vincent van Gogh was born in this town in 1853, exactly one hundred years before my birth. After finding out this, I feel closer to him, but not close enough to cut off my ear.

#### **Tuesday, September 12**

We've just spent 2 days exploring Antwerpen, the 3rd largest shipping port in Belgium. The highlight was the Rubins house, with his paintings of voluptuous nudes, and leaving the city by biking under the Schelde river. This is where we met 2 bikers that talked us into trying to follow the Schelde river into France. This might have been OK if we had detailed maps. As it turned out, we never knew when to follow along the river or not. We not only biked though lots of mud, but biked around in circles a few times.

We were told that Brugge, Belgium, is like a little Venice. I was not impressed - it was overcrowded and the cars were not very friendly to bikers. We did have an interesting visit with the owner of a guesthouse

that we stayed at. He and his wife were professional Chopin performers (she played the piano, and he made all the arrangements for concerts all over the world).

We next stayed in Ieper, where the great war (WWI) in Flanders took place. 'In Flanders Fields the poppies blew between the crosses row on row that mark our place' wrote Canadian army doctor John McCrae. 1/2 million soldiers died, most of them in muddy trenches, from 1914 to 1918, and the heaviest battle in Belgium took place in and around Ieper. Every night at 8 PM, a deeply moving ceremony takes place under the Menin Gate memorial arch.

The next night in Tournal was nice except that most of the town's streets are cobblestones, with wide gaps between the stones. The next morning, as I was biking out of town I looked down to see half of my quick release hanging out of my front axle. I am mighty glad I fixed it before any damage to my bike happened.

### **Saturday, September 16**

Michelle suggested that we go to France and see Paris. How could I say no! The first town that we wanted to stop for the night was Vieux Conde. We saw signs for Hotel Villa, so we tried to follow them. It was not easy. We asked the police while they were busting some kids out for a good time on the town. They seemed very interested in giving us a lesson in how to speak French. This included quite a few whistling sounds when describing when we needed to turn (tweet) this way and (tweet) that way. After following their directions we found the Hotel Villa. But there was not a hotel that we could find. When I walked around one of the possible entrances, I found myself in a deep puddle of piss. Later we found out that Hotel Villa in French means town hall.

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## **Why?**

### **By Bruce Bindner**

*(Editor's note: Bruce posted this on rec.climbing – it is reprinted here without permission)*

He is your neighbor. She is the smiling woman behind the receptionist's desk at your dentist office. He's the man who built your house. Who are these people? On weekends they vanish down the highway, watching the cluttered cities grow small in rearview mirrors. Phone calls are answered by machines and voice mail. Several times a year, they disappear for weeks at a time.

What are they doing?

Midweek finds them sorting through an amazing collection of gadgets, checking guidebooks, calculating mileage, travel time, and trail head elevations. By Friday afternoon, (sometimes Thursday when they can sneak an extra day off from work) they are headed out of town. If someone is waving goodbye, the parting remark is usually "See you later -- Got a mountain to climb."

What is mountain climbing?

To people who are peripheral to the sport, it is many things -- It is the intense eyes of the man with the ice-encrusted beard and lethal- looking ice axes in his hands; it is reckless risk-taking; bold adventure; suffering; it is an industry that shouts in bright colors from outdoor magazines that if you buy THIS product or eat THIS energy bar you will be in the center, looking out at the world through those intense eyes, that you will know what it all means to go to the remote and desperate heights of the earth where humans were not meant to survive.

But those that are packing their gear on Wednesday nights are not packing the latest ice axes on the market. They are not wearing the brightest, newest high altitude nylon wind suits. Their waterproof or Goretex jacket may have many patches. Their packs are battered, their boots worn and scuffed. Most have been

quietly pursuing their passion for high places for many years, since long before media attention, superb high-tech gear, and the need for adventure in an increasingly pre-packaged society brought mountain climbing into the mainstream.

Real climbers have day jobs.

To them the activity is all-absorbing; a passion, a way of life from which they look at the world. Their method is simple: they seek the remote, the unattainable. They are enchanted with the improbable.

To just set down on a summit via helicopter or 4wd SUV misses the point. Theirs is the journey, and the journey owns them.

What calls them? A land as alien as the surface of the moon. Look close. Closer still... There! Do you see it? In the crevice, amidst a pull of gravity as lethal as a gunshot, grows a flower. Across the jumbled, creaking, freight-train blocks of a tumultuous glacier's icefall, bubbles a streamlet as pure as the first day of the world. Their boot prints, sometimes the first these places have seen since the dawn of time, vanish like the whisper of a thought forgotten, in those far places where time is measured only by the pulse of the seasons, the shifting of the constellations through the millenia.

They range from sandwich-in-a-paper-bag-toting peak baggers to hard-core wall rats festooned with ironmongery, to parka-shrouded cloudwalkers of the 8,000-meter peaks. They are the grandmothers, students, school teachers, doctors and engineers, who have discovered a reality outside of the clocks, ceilings, schedules and planning of this world.

Summit day usually begins some time on the late night side of morning, shouldering a battered pack, crunching crampons across snow or balancing catfooted across teetering granite blocks by headlamp in the darkness. For others it begins in a sleeping bag cocoon, suspended above a gulf of emptiness on a nylon-and-aluminum-framed portaledge, lighting a tiny bedside hanging stove for coffee, dangling above two thousand feet of air amid an incredible tangle of ropes, gear, and supplies, before the first light of day begins to rinse the sky of stars. The same sunrise finds them all.

They seek those moments when time stands still. The catalysts are as varied as the individuals who pursue this path: a meteor shower; a night sky so star-filled that it snatches your breath; another rise of the sun over distant mountains vast and untouchable; dodging a rock careening crazily down a gully; a desperate icy struggle through whiteout and ground blizzard down to the safety of camp after an unsuccessful summit attempt; standing atop a mountain with a friend, the whole world at your feet, a blinding sun blazing out of a flawless sky, taking the time to watch that sun dip below the horizon even though camp is still many miles and many thousands of feet distant; stumbling over boulders and through brush in the darkness; watching the starlight and the storm wrest for possession of the night sky, seated on a narrow ledge beside your rope-mate with only the clothes on your back for shelter, shivering the night away, knowing that, sometime in a distant place you cannot now touch, the world will once again grow bright, the sun will rise, and you will look out on the infant day with new eyes.

The twinkling lights of the city grow closer as your car speeds away from the mountain. Soon, you will drop off your ropemate, the two of you will shake hands or hug, and the trip will be over. But not the journey.

Some at work may notice it, think the intense look a scar from desperate struggles in the sky. But your partner knows. It is the look of someone looking inward, remembering, savoring. And when you get home from work that first evening back on the flatlands, you will not so much unpack, as re-arrange, evaluate, inspect, and start re-packing your gear for the next trip, the next exploration of a region as vast and unknown as the star-filled sky.

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PRASH BHAT, M/S 04-JJ  
OR: 23227 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Edmonds, WA 98020  
OR: prashantha.bhat@pss.boeing.com

**NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THIS PUBLICATION  
DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF  
THE BOEING COMPANY**

ALPINE ECHO

***October ECHO staff***

Editor: Matt Robertson  
Contributors: Al Baal, Dan Goering,  
David Hamilton, Bruce Bindner

*Thanks to all who contributed this month! If you  
have any submissions - anything vaguely  
mountaineering or outdoors related will do -  
email them to me at  
matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in  
inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices  
will work, give me a call at  
(425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

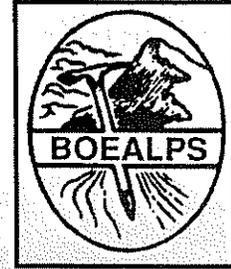


# ALPINE ECHO

Glenn A. Tomchik

74-07

November 2000



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			BCAG Recreation	Jake Davis	425-342-8369

Photo: " On the Summit of Eldorado Peak" by Troy Colyer

From Prash Bhat 04-JJ



### November General Meeting

Boealper Don Goodman will be speaking about winter mountaineering in the Cascades and Olympics and presenting a slide show covering several of his favorite climbs, including a couple of winter first ascents.

**Thursday, November 7th**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting at 7:30 pm**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **New Officers and Chairs...**

There's been a few changes in the folks that help run the club since last month. Although David Hamilton volunteered to be our club Secretary, he wasn't able to hold that office since he's not a direct Boeing employee (apparently, employees of the Museum of Flight don't count – go figure!). Instead, David has graciously offered to take over the Activities Chair position, and Don Fraser has stepped up to be our new Secretary. Micah Lambeth has volunteered to be the new Programs Chair, leaving only our Librarian position open. Thanks to David, Don and Micah for volunteering!

## **Winter Mountaineering - Cascades and Olympics...**

The snow will soon fly, signaling the time to transition from the fall climbing scene to winter mountaineering. Don Goodman will give an overview of winter mountaineering in the Cascades and Olympic mountains including a discussion of equipment, objectives, approaches, and a bit of philosophy thrown in for good measure. This illustrated discussion will include a winter first ascent or two. The meeting will be held in the Oxbow Recreation Center on Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup>, with a social half hour at 7:00, and Don's presentation starting at 7:30...

## **Annual January X-C Ski Weekend...**

The annual X-C ski weekend is scheduled for January 19-21. For 2001 we're moving back north to Winthrop, home of one of the best (if not the best) groomed trail system in the country. We have a reservation at the Westar Lodge, but we need someone to volunteer to organize the trip. Without a trip leader, the trip will have to be canceled. If you'd like to see the trip go, and would be willing to volunteer the few hours necessary, please contact Glenn Tomchik or Norene Borg (see the front cover for contact information). You can see more info on this trip on the Activities page...

## **Ski Expo at the Mountaineers!**

The Mountaineers are having a ski expo on November 18th from 10 am to 4pm at the Mountaineers clubhouse in Seattle. This year they have invited several of the local stores to participate by bringing gear and giving lectures on topics from bindings to ski/snowboards to waxing clinics. There will be some raffles and some complimentary issues of Backcountry, Outside, Couloir, and Snowboard Life magazines...

## **New Message Board...**

Our web master, Rob, has modified the message board on our web site so that anything you submit is entered immediately. That makes the message board a great resource for hooking up with other Boealpers for last minute climbing trips – check it out and give it a try!

Our web site password is still SLESSE – you'll need it to access the activities page.

From the desk of your editor,

  
Matt Robertson

***December Echo deadline is November 22<sup>nd</sup>***

## November, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 General Club Meeting	3	4
5	6	7 Election Day – Get Out and Vote!	8	9 Board Meeting	10	11 Full Moon Veteran's Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Echo deadline	23 Thanksgiving	24	25 New Moon
26	27	28	29	30		

## December, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Santa Train	4	5	6	7 General Club Meeting	8	9
10	11 Full Moon	12	13	14 Board Meeting Echo Deadline	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Matt's Bday
24	25 New Moon Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						



# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please note:** all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

## **Submit activities to**

David Hamilton  
206-297-7353  
dhamilton@MuseumOfFlight.org

*From the Education chair, Len Kannapell*

## **Y2K Seminars – A Look Back**

### **Avalanche** (*December-early January, White Pass*)

That Gary Brill is a difficult one to schedule, as the dude is in high demand. But information on how to recognize avalanche terrain and what tests are used to evaluate snow stability were learned by all (e.g., if other options are available, the base of the Willis Wall in January is not an optimal bivy).

### **Waterfall ice** (*January 29-30, Lillooet, B.C.*)

Shoehorning 10 people into the Mike Jacobsen van with enough gear for the South Pole, a 6 hour drive, and Dave Burdick performing a masterful rendition of "the Corpse," as his lifeless body was lowered from a steep WI4 climb in Marble Canyon are the memories of this seminar. Dave resurrected minutes later when oxygen-rich blood returned to his hands and fingers. Others suffered the same cruel fate.

### **Aid climbing** (*February 17, Index*)

My car died en route at the Speedy Gas near Kenmore, with Yag and the Penguin aboard. Shawn Paré saved us a long hitchhike home by answering the phone and my desperate plea by picking us up and driving us to Index. The trademark inclement February weather was amazingly clear – but damn windy. As I stood on the belay ledge just left of Thin Fingers, Annette Mockli could be heard succinctly yelling down to her belay partner over the freight-train wind: "Crrmmmbliiiiiggingggg!".

### **Crevasse Rescue** (*May 20, Nisqually Glacier*)

An attempt to do a real-time "Yes, you'll place all your own anchors" crevasse rescue was quickly subsumed by a general "Hey look, a pre-placed, bombproof deadman anchor to clip into!" review, due to the time constraints and the large number of students. First time for one of these, and it still needs a bit of work (sorry, Carrie, for any excessive time hanging in the crevasse) and we all learned a great deal about the necessity for good belay chairs and respect for the mountain when it speaks.

### **Rock Leading** (*June 25, Leavenworth*)

I was gone to my 20<sup>th</sup> high school reunion in Louisville ("Whar yew bin the last few yars?"), and the Penguin was out in California, drying his flippers. But Ryan Allen and Bill Harrison led the five students through the motions of setting anchors, placing pro, and drinking Blind Pig Stout at Gustav's (in chronological order).

### **Rock Leading** (*October, Winthrop*)

This got as close to reality as, say, O.J. telling the truth on the stand. In retrospect, we all agreed that Winthrop was an interesting experiment as an alternative venue for the October campout, but it's just too far. One thing is certain: the five Boealpers present were probably not crowded at Pearrygin Lake.

**Glacier Ice** (*October 14-15, Coleman Glacier, Mt. Baker*)

Friday night's monsoon and the promise of more demoralizing pounding prompted an evening call from Alex Van Steen ("You *sure* you want to do this thing?") But some surprisingly clear weather greeted us the next day and stayed with us, despite the normally rain-inducing presence of Richard T. "Extreme" Privett. The Yellow Boot Boys, Tom "Rained Out at Liberty Bell" Yocum and Andrew "Me Too - Where's the Beer?" Keleher, joined us at the last minute, James Schalla fell into Glacier Creek (thank God for plastic boots), and Alex and Micah went almost an hour beyond the bivy spot, thanks to a lack of communication on my behalf. But ice conditions were stellar, Baker majestic, and I hated running off at 3:30 pm on Saturday. But I had a surprise 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party for a theatre friend back in Seattle, and a busted thermostat at my old house in Northgate to attend to on Sunday.

**Upcoming 2001 seminars:**

**Avalanche** (*December-January*)

Gary Brill is back once again for a December-January seminar. The exact dates aren't available, as Gary isn't due back before the publication deadline, so look for details in the December *ECHO*. Cost will probably be in the range of \$80-\$100, with a limit of 10-12 students. This could be the best investment you ever make and I strongly encourage you to sign up.

**Ski Mountaineering** (*January-February*)

This is a maybe, if we can strong arm Rob Kunz and Bill Frans into doing this. Last done two years ago in conjunction with the Avalanche seminar.

**Waterfall ice** (*January/February*)

Working on Alex Van Steen or some other professional to do this. Exact dates established soon. This year's trip to Lillooet was a great time, and cheap accommodations to boot.

If you have any comments regarding seminars or suggestions for improvements, let me know. Thanks,

Len Kannapell  
kannapell@yahoo.com (206)522-7022 h.

## **Big Al's Big Adventure, continued**

### **The Continuing Travels of Al Baal**

#### **Tuesday, September 26**

Day by day, France proved to be frustrating. After one of the many days we spent trying to weave our way to Paris on confusing roads, we stopped at a hotel called Formula One. This place was so funny we laughed for hours! The owner would not check us in, we had to use a computer (like a bank machine) to check in and get a code to get into our room and the hotel. The place was like one big vending machine; self cleaning bathrooms and showers all color coded to match the room we were in (just because I am a nonconformist, I did not use the color that I was assigned to), and all the food came out of a vending machine.

The plan was to bike close to Paris, then get a train into Paris. The train station would not take our bikes unpacked, and directed us to the packing center 2k away. When we got there, they would not pack our bikes until we bought a ticket. Back at the train station we were told that the packers were at lunch, and are planning to go on strike after that, but we could pack our own bikes. After looking high and low for a bike box for Michelle, we got on our bikes and biked on.

Paris was great. The first night we walked to the Notre Dame along the beautiful Seine River at sunset, with the Eiffel Tower in the background. The next day we went to see the Mona Lisa at the Louve. We meet two nice Americans that gave us free tickets to the O'dai museum. There we saw paintings from Van Gogh, Monet, Renoir and the famous painting of Whistler's mother.

#### **Friday, September 29**

Michelle and I took the train from Paris to Amsterdam. We spent a few days getting my trailer connection fixed. We took this time to visit the Rijksmuseum, where we saw many paintings by Rembrandt and many other paintings and artifacts on Dutch history, then we went on a nice canal ride and checked out the Ann Frank house.

We headed north up the Markermeer bay to Utdam and camped with a nice view of the water. After that we had a great time in Alkmaar, which was full of canals, drawbridge, churches, and merchant houses. Every Friday they have a cheese market for wholesalers. Since 1622 merchants have come here to do some serious buying of their wonderful cheeses.

North of there we biked next to a beach that was paved over enough for an airplane to land on. This is where we spotted a sunken ship. After biking to the very north tip of Holland, we headed east and crossed the Afsluitdijk. This is a man made dike that goes on for more than 30k. This is something one does not do every day, unless you live in Holland.

After the biggest dike I have ever experienced, we headed back to Amsterdam, by way of Mikkum, Stavoren, and a ferry boat ride to Enthuizen. I saw Michelle off back to Seattle, with much sadness.

#### **Sunday, October 1**

Washing one's clothes is a big thing to a bike traveler. I don't like to use washing machines unless I have a full load. Now that it is raining more and more, I find it hard to get them to dry. So I have come up with a new system.

I rotate my clothes as soon as I start to smell them. After putting on a clean (or nearly clean) pair, I do a full inspection of the suspected garment (food and grease stains don't count). Then I imagine what it would feel like if someone got a good whiff of me. If this would be an embarrassment to

me, it goes into the dirty bag, if it wouldn't, it goes into the clean bag, if I am not sure it goes into the "if I have nothing else to wear" bag.

I would love to hear if others (Dan, Patty) have a system they have used.

### **Friday, October 6**

I have 4 months of biking under my belt, and I would like to give a damage report.

So far, I have replaced 2 sets of tires, both bike and trailer. I've broken off the end of my back hub gear cable pin, partially stripped both pedal arms, and my left shoe plate. Four bolts vibrated off, and the kickstand snapped when I tried to bend it back into place. I have had problems with the handle bar stem coming loose, and breaking off the rubber connection between my bike and the trailer. I've also had to replace my pedals and shoes.

I can't help but wonder if all my bike problems are normal

### **Friday, October 13**

The 4 days in Munich were spent visiting the Alte Pinakothek and Deutsches Museum, the Dachau concentration camp, and the town center. The Alte Pinakothek is a nice art museum, but nothing compared to the ones in Paris. The Deutsches is a history in technology museum. One of the parts that I liked best was a recreation of the history of mining. They did a good job at simulating what it would be like to be in the mines from mining's beginning, to how they do it today. But I must say, I got the biggest kick out of the history of the computer. I saw some of my old friends that I worked with 25 years ago, like the IBM 360 Main Frame, the IBM 7501 card readers, and the IBM 1311 Disk Unit (which stored a whole 2.68 megabytes of memory!). The Dachau concentration camp was very sobering. 31,591 prisoners died, and this was not from gassing anyone. I saw the experimental station that was set up in block 5, where high pressure and exposure experiments were practiced, along with biochemical and malaria experiments. With the violent expansion of the Third Reich, up to 1600 prisoners lived in barracks meant for 200. The camp was started in 1933 for political prisoners, and expanded to imprison citizens from almost every nation. I did finally have some fun in the town center, eating German food and beer.

### **Sunday, October 15**

I landed in Delhi just after midnight without a place to stay. I exchanged some money and met two French women that have been to Delhi before. We shared a taxi to their favorite hotel called Vavek (\$4 per night). The next day, I met Todie (a guy from Germany). I tagged along with him on his effort to find the bus station. We shared a rickshaw, but traffic was so bad we could have made better time walking. After 2 hours, the rickshaw drive kicked us out (he had agreed to such a small amount of money that he went crazy and just wanted to get out of traffic. We wandered around for 2 more hours before giving up. Finding our way back to our hotel was not easy. While trying to dodge a car, a bull got me in the ribs with his horns! I was lucky that they were not sharp. Twice I had a rickshaw driver run over my right foot, and God know what I stepped in a few times. Getting back to my room felt like I had found sanctuary. The next day I took a 14-hour bus tour to Agra, the Taj Mahal and the birthplace of Hara Krishna. We were at the Taj Mahal at sunset to see what it is best known for. The white Indian marble turns different colors as the sun sets. I was very impressed.

I then flew to Calcutta, where I checked into a nice hotel with HBO, and 50 other stations. All this for \$6 per night! Today as I am getting ready to head for the Himalayas, I watched the second baseball playoffs between Seattle and NY. When I asked the hotel about getting a beer, he pulled me to the side and said, "Beer is only on the Black Market, but I can get it for you." It was the worst tasting beer I have had in quite a while!

## The Continuing Saga of Dan Goering

Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>: Greetings from Dornbirn, Austria!

We're back visiting our friends Wolfgang and Edith here after returning our Smartcar in Innsbruck yesterday afternoon. We spent this morning with Wolfgang's English language class full of 13 and 14 year old Austrian students, serving as examples of real live people from the United States and answering questions. Our reward? Use of the school computer room! So allow me to pick up where my last update left off: still in the Dolomites!

Our move of camp from Cortina to Corvara went smoothly, which is saying a bit as we had to strap the bikes on the roof of our tiny car and this was possible only with the convertible roof retracted on a gray threatening day. We arrived at Camping Colfusco still dry and the first person to see our tiny car so ridiculously laden with gear and bicycles burst out laughing and promptly offered us a shot of schnapps in appreciation of the spectacle, which indeed says something about our load as he was not some wildly sentimental Italian but a man of good stoic German blood!

The peaks of the Sella group above town were frequently hidden in gray cloud and the occasional shower for the next four days during which we managed several klettersteigs including the oldest in the Dolomites installed in 1912. The Possnecker was a challenge on that damp cloudy morning as we crept our way up through dripping chimneys, the wet rock chilling our hands and making the iron pegs and rungs drilled into the rock slightly slippery. Glimpses of the pass and valley below would briefly appear filtered through thin gauze of wispy cloud and then suddenly we would be back into the dimensionless gray.

Finally at the top after a very alpine finish on snow covered rock, we followed the red dot trails on to the Boe Hut and spent the evening with our fellow mountain wanderers over red wine and a device known as the "Wheeeee Machine". This consisted of 8" length of wood with square cross-section, v-shaped notches all along one long edge and a tiny wooden propeller nailed loosely on the end. One guy in the hut could rub another stick back and forth across the V-notches and make the propeller spin - rub one side of the notches to spin left, the other for right. When it was spinning well, he'd let out a loud cry of "Wheeeeeeeee". Doesn't sound like it could provide entertainment for the whole hut the entire night but it did, chiefly because that one guy was the only one of us who could make it work and watching everyone else struggle to figure out how he did it was rather amusing.

The weather cleared the next day and we marked the dusting of fresh snow on the path to Piz Boe peak with our tracks before traversing on to the klettersteig up the Boesekofel, a delightfully steep climb with incredible views over Corvara on that warm sunny afternoon. We arrived late back at camp just before dark because my attempt to explore a very direct route back led us to the top of some steep cliffs with a great view of camp below but no easy way down. Tomorrow was the day for our big finale climb.

Before we left on this trip, Patty bought a guidebook to classic rock climbs in the Dolomites and asked her mother, Florence, to leaf through and pick a climb for us. Her mother knows next to nothing about rock climbing but Patty thought it would be a fun way to share a bit of what we might be doing with her. Her mother used her yellow highlighter to mark the only climb in our book that bore the Italian translation of her name: Torre Firenze - a 12 pitch climb rated at 5.6. I originally dismissed the climb because of its length, since back in the Cascades I usually figure an experienced and fast team needs 30 min a pitch and Patty and I were taking closer to an hour a pitch on earlier climbs of similar difficulty. But one afternoon while taking a second look, I realized that just two pitches were rated 5.6 and the rest were 5.2 to 5.3. Such easy climbing just might make it possible for us to get up a long route in good time and after discussing it, we decided to go for it!

Our first glimpse of the route through the tops of the pines on that clear morning as we hurried up the approach trail was impressive, a long and very steep looking arete of reddish rock. It was good

that we were blessed with such perfect weather as a number of other small delays had let much of the morning slip away and by the time we scrambled up the last bit of scree to the start of the climb, it was already 11am. Another team of two was just getting ready to start and several other teams were already above, picking their way across the still chilly NW side of the arete base. I silently wondered about the wisdom of our decision to launch with such a late start, knowing too that Patty was nervous about the length and worried about being fast enough to get off before dark. The other team started and I asked Patty "This could be a very long day. Are you mentally prepared for this?" Her affirmative answer confirmed our commitment and we were quickly off ourselves as yet another pair arrived at the base.

Loose and ledgy climbing leads to the start of the 3rd pitch: a very airy yet well protected (i.e. FUN!) traverse around to the other side of the arete. This then leads quickly to the 4th pitch crux - a vertical airy step with small holds and a "Thank-God" fixed pin at just the right place. Dolomite rock is very compact with few cracks, making frequent protection difficult. The locals seem to think nothing of leading a full pitch while placing only 2 or 3 pieces and I was climbing like a local by the time we topped out. The rest of the climb left a lot of leeway to climb harder or easier options directly on or just to the right of the arete crest and we made good time, using one long running belay to knock off 2 or 3 pitches through easy middle ground. The upper pitches were indeed sections of joyous 5.2 to 5.3 climbing offering numerous jug holds and comfortable belay ledges but often nearly vertical and with exposure enough to keep me plenty alert on my runout leads.

We topped out after a very respectable 5 hours on route and for the first time that day we really relaxed as the late afternoon sun highlighted the Sella group across the valley where we had blundered through fog just days before. We had pulled it off in good style and commemorated the moment with summit photos of us holding up the guide book turned to the appropriate page and a paper on which we'd penned a greeting to Patty's mom.

The next morning, Bostan and Marjeta in Ljubljana were unperturbed as usual with our last minute phone call to see if we could drop by that night and leave the bikes with them while we continued our trip. The day was sunny, the bikes survived their long ride atop the Smartcar, and Marjeta had her fabulous apple strudel in the oven when we arrived that night to bask once again in their warm hospitality.

Up at 6 am with Bostjan and Marjeta as they got ready for work, we set off on the hour long drive to Triglav National Park. We finally started up the trail about 10:30 am after having driven a convoluted way to avoid the tollway, even managing a complete circle of the lake in Bled! 10:45, I run back to the car for the camera while Patty continues on. Around noon, drenched in sweat, we meet two Irishmen who tell us they just started down from the summit an hour before. We hurry on, eager to try and match Bostjan's 3.5 hour time to reach the summit. As in Italy the trail is marked with red dots and parts of it are fixed with cable, especially the final stretch to the summit which looks more like a rock climb from the distance. Finally at 2 pm, we gasp our way up to the tiny cylindrical steel shelter that marks the 2854-meter summit. 3.5 hours up! Of course, Bostjan does it with a pack full of cans of beer and T-shirts that he sells to tourists for a nice profit. We had just one light shared pack with clothes for a day trip. The good views were enhanced by sun and some summit camaraderie with several Slovenian fellows and then with Mary and Jerry Z. They said their son Mike works at Boeing and was in charge of avionics development for the 777!

The sun slipped behind the ridge that evening as we watched from not far below the summit and the high altitude cold seeped into us. In the Cascades, spending the night at this altitude with just light day clothes would be considered a rather uncomfortable and extreme experience, but here in Slovenia we were not alone. 10 or so others also found themselves in our present position. Shivering, we sought shelter from the chill breeze and found the perfect place in the form of the bar at the hut we had checked into!

Next morning, we returned to our Smartcar and headed for Italy for the start of our cultural and gastronomic tour, destined to start in Venice! Stay tuned for more.

# A Trip to Sikkim

By Bill Harrison

*(Editor's Note: Bill and several other Boealpers are over in Sikkim for a trekking/climbing trip – this is the first report he's sent home...)*

We made it to Gangtok OK, but it was right on the edge. Thai airlines was one half hour late departing Bangkok. They made us weigh our carry-ons, and I was overweight by 12 kilos. I pleaded with them as they wanted \$48 to check the bag. I said I should not have to pay for food, since we are going to eat it here. The woman behind the counter says, "OK, take it out. So I did, and I put on my boots, and put 20 pounds of camera gear in my coat right in front of them. They watched me do this and then put my bag back on the scale. \$12 and I kept my bag! They lost Kathy's ticket too – they had accidentally given it to John, and they wanted her to go back out to the main terminal! Thank god John finally noticed he had it!

We only had two hours in Calcutta to catch our flight north. We got into Calcutta and our bags were the last to come off. We dashed through customs and there was Al Baal! Al directed us to the next building for domestic flights. We ran!!!! We checked our bags and were over weight and needed 2000 rupees. I didn't have time to change money and they said that we didn't have time now, and we would have to remove our bags. The next flight was in three days. "Ha!" I thought, "Al's got money!" Fortunately, he did have enough. Next it was on to security, which was the worst I ever experienced. They searched us five times and ended up taking Kathy and Ron's batteries. We made it to the bus and I realized I had forgotten my food bag back in security! Another search and another mad dash for the bus! I got on, with Ron right behind me. They let me on the bus but they held Ron back – I don't know why, as the bus was almost empty. We got to the plane, a 737, and were the last ones on and then here comes Ron in his own bus. We made it, but what hell. It was even worse than I described above; they did not find my two knives, or my two flashlights, or my extra batteries. When they asked me, I said that "Yes, I have those things, but they are in my checked in baggage." I got lucky!

We flew into Badogra airport, no pictures allowed, military base! The Cho Oyu people were right there to meet us. All our bags showed up and they gave us our batteries. I took a picture from our jeep. They had two pretty new ones waiting for us. Then a crazy three hour drive on a crowded country road and then into the mountains. What windy roads!

Our first night was in Kalimpong, West Bengal in these beautiful cottages with real bathrooms on the side of the mountain. Just wonderful.

The weather is great, everything is perfect. We already have seen all the mountains from our rooms here in Gangtok, fantastic views of all the big mountains. And we have nice bathrooms - Al and John even have a large bathtub! Sikkim is so beautiful and clean! Wonderful forests, blue skies, about 85 degrees here at 5500 feet. I'm so happy to be here!

Tomorrow we head to Yuksom and then start hiking into the mountains. The mountain we are climbing has only been climbed twice in the last 20 years. They are closing down many of the peaks around here. Our Sherpa is getting another 750 feet of rope for us - it turns out that we need 1500 feet of fixed line.

We have good drivers and so far the roads are tarred and in good condition. The diesel fumes and dust are bad in Gangtok, but everything else is great. The food is great also.

I will email again around November 10th from Darjeeling. By the way this internet cafe has only been here 7 days!

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ALPINE ECHO



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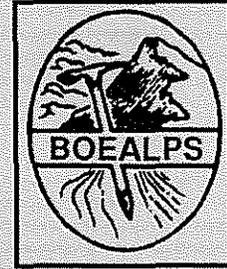
*Contributions are getting low! If you have any submissions - anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do - email them to me at matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices will work, give me a call at (425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

Brad H. Brooks

7M-HC

December 2000



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Photo: " Lobuche Peak, Nepal" by Shawn Paré

From Prash Bhat 04-JJ



Pheriche, Nepal

### December General Meeting

The December main show will feature Drs. Martha Johnson and Dana Lynch talking about being volunteer doctors in Pheriche, Nepal. They will also discuss altitude specific health conditions. The mini-show will be Courtenay Schurman of Body Results discussing climbing fitness and conditioning.

**Thursday, December 7th**  
**Oxbow Recreation Center**  
**Social half hour starts at 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting starts at 7:30 pm**

# **BELAY STANCE**

## **It's that time of the year again...**

Your Boealps membership will be expiring in December! Fortunately, you can remedy this situation by filling out the membership renewal form conveniently located near the back of this issue! Send it in along with your check for membership dues, and you can look forward to another year full of fun filled alpine adventures (not to mention another 12 issues of the fabulous Alpine Echo!)

## **Basic Climbing Class 2001...**

Rich Privett will be the lead instructor of next year's Basic Climbing Class (way to go, Rich!). Rich will need the usual gaggle of Basic Class instructors – if you haven't taught before, and you'd like to help out, there's more info elsewhere in this issue on how to contact Rich...

## **Intermediate Climbing Class 2001...**

Yes, there will be one offered this year! Brian Tryba (another round of applause for another volunteer – the head instructor for these classes are a tremendous time commitment!) Mike Bingle will be making a mini-presentation on the ICC at the January general meeting, and application packets will be available then. Spread the word to anyone you know that may be interested...

## **It's another BAG-IT Night...**

Coming up on December 13<sup>th</sup> – the ever popular trade: we give you pizza, you coordinate a club outing! See more details in the activities section of the Echo. We need a good turn out for this one – make an effort to be there! Thanks to David Hamilton for organizing this!

## **Annual January X-C Ski Weekend...**

Don't forget about the upcoming XC ski weekend at the end of January. Last year's attendance was dismal, and the club lost a bunch of bucks on the weekend (we pay a set amount whether or not enough people go to cover the costs). Let's get some more active participation from club members this year – the Methow is a spectacular area in the winter (and pretty nice for rock climbing when the snow melts!) Thanks to Elden Altizer for stepping up to handle the organization of this trip!

## **Avalanche Safety Seminar...**

Len Kannapell has once again retained the services of Gary Brill to offer an outrageous deal on one of the best (if not the best) avalanche safety seminars given in the Northwest. If you get out in the mountains in the winter, and you haven't taken Gary's class yet, sign up for it this year. Details elsewhere in this issue, but there's only room for 20 students, so don't wait! Thanks for organizing this, Len!

## **We Still Need a Librarian...**

The club is still in need of a librarian. This is an easy job – show up at the monthly general meetings to unlock the library cabinet, then lock the cabinet up again at the end of the evening. Piece of cake! As an added bonus, there's usually \$100 or so allocated out of the yearly budget to spend on buying new books – here's your chance to shop with someone else's money! Help the club out and join all the other folks mentioned above that are volunteering their time to make this club work – give our prez, Norene, a call at 425-865-2217 and volunteer!

Our web site's password is still SLESSE – you'll need it to access the activities page.

From the desk of your editor,

  
Matt Robertson

**January Echo deadline is December 14<sup>th</sup>**

## December, 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Santa Train; Winter Outing	4	5	6	7 General Club Meeting	8	9
10	11 Full Moon	12 Avalanche Safety seminar	13 BAG-IT - University Round Table	14 Board Meeting Echo Deadline	15	16 Mt. St. Helens Ski Trip
17 Winter Outing	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice	22 Hannukkah	23 Matt's Bday
24	25 New Moon Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30 Glacier Peak
31 New Year's Eve Glacier Peak						

## January, 2001

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day; Glacier Peak	2	3 Avalanche Safety seminar	4 General Club Meeting	5	6 Avalanche Safety field trip
7 Avalanche Safety field trip; Winter Outing	8	9 Full Moon	10 Avalanche Safety seminar	11 Board Meeting; MOFA Class	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16 MOFA Class	17	18 Echo Deadline; MOFA Class	19 North Cascades XC Ski Trip	20 North Cascades XC Ski Trip
21 North Cascades XC Ski Trip; Winter Outing	22	23 MOFA Class	24 New Moon Chinese New Year	25 MOFA Class	26	27
28	29	30 MOFA Class	31			

hikes ● scrambles ● ski trips ● climbs ● other

## **Boealps Winter Outing Series**

### **1<sup>st</sup> and 3rd Sunday of the Month, December-March**

Just like last year's outings, only more of them! Snowshoes and avalanche beacons required, both of which you can borrow from the club. Trip dates will be December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, January 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, and March 4<sup>th</sup>.

<b>Mountain/Area</b>	Various locations in the Cascades
<b>Elevation</b>	Higher than home
<b>Route</b>	Whatever looks good for the weather and snow conditions
<b>Class</b>	2-3, maybe some 4th
<b>Grade</b>	I-II
<b>Approximate Times</b>	6 a.m. - 8 p.m. or so
<b>Skills</b>	Basic class grad or equivalent
<b>Limits</b>	None
<b>Contacts</b>	Mike Bingle, 206-662-4929(w), 206-935-3992(h) (before 9 p.m.), michael.g.bingle@boeing.com

## **Bobabies Ride the Santa Train December 3**

It's time to think about the Santa Train ride for the Bobabies and kids of all ages! It was an awful lot of fun last year, so please join us for a ride on the Santa Train on Sunday, December 3 at 9am. This is a 20 train minute ride from North Bend to Snoqualmie with cookies, cocoa, and St. Nick (and construction equipment, which was Bryden's favorite) waiting in Snoqualmie. The grand finale is the 20-minute train ride back to North Bend.

Ticket cost is \$9 in advance (\$10 the day of the event) and you can call the Santa Train Hotline at (425)888-2206 to purchase. The 9 am train worked great last year, as there was parking and train space available, but please plan to be there by 8:40 as parking space is limited. Tickets sell out early, so get your tickets soon!

More information is available at <http://www.trainmuseum.org/Train.htm>.

## **Mt. St. Helens Ski Trip December 16**

We'll drive down Friday after work, car camp, and then hike up a ways for some short skiing and then on up to the top for a long run down. Pick your poison for your mode of travel. I'll bring the apple juice. Day trip, snow travel, skis/snowboards/snowshoes/sled recommended.

<b>Party Limit</b>	None
<b>Route</b>	Monitor Ridge
<b>Experience</b>	Basic Class grad or equivalent
<b>Contact</b>	David Hamilton, (206)297-7353, dhamilton@MuseumOfFlight.org

## New Year's on Glacier Peak

December 30-January 1

Ring in the New Year by climbing Glacier Peak, and enjoy a soak in Kennedy Hot Springs on the way out!

<b>Mountain/Area</b>	Glacier Peak
<b>Elevation</b>	10,541'
<b>Route</b>	Sitkum Glacier
<b>Class</b>	Glacier travel
<b>Grade</b>	I-II
<b>Skills</b>	Basic class grad or equivalent
<b>Limits</b>	None
<b>Contact</b>	David Hamilton, (206)297-7353, dhamilton@MuseumOfFlight.org

Submit activities to: **David Hamilton**  
**206-297-7353**  
**dhamilton@MuseumOfFlight.org**

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## **BAG-IT (Basic Grad Intermediate Training) Night** **Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 7-9 pm**

**You lead, we feed!** The goal of this evening is to provide some good outings for recent (and not so recent!) Basic Class grads to continue expanding their wealth of mountaineering skills and experiences either in preparation for the Intermediate Class, or just for their own personal enjoyment. This can be done in two ways: a more senior member of the club offering an "interesting" climb for less experienced members; or getting some of the newer members of the club to become trip leaders. For either case, we'll come armed with maps, guidebooks and lots of ideas for great trips at all experience levels. All you have to bring is a willingness to get out in the mountains and an appetite for pizza! This has proven to be a gold mine for trips in the past - please help us keep this working by showing up!

Where: Round Table Pizza, 5111 25th Ave NE (by University Village)

When: 7 -9 pm, 12/13/00

Contact: David Hamilton (206)297-7353  
dhamilton@MuseumOfFlight.org

\*Basic Class grads, this is a great opportunity to meet other club members and get some experience for the ICC for 2001 or the following year. If you don't know what activity to lead, show up anyway and we'll help you brainstorm some ideas.

\*ICC instructors, submit one outing (you can pair up with another instructor as well) to lead a climb targeting these Basic Class grads.

\*Club members, help us out by submitting an activity!

# **Boealps Activity Submittal Form**

Please fill out as much information as you can in the spaces below. This form will not be relevant for every activity submitted, but it will give you and those who sign up more info. Thanks!

**Trip date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain or area:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Elevation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Route:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Time(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Maps Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Description:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum number willing to take)

**Contact Info:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
M/S: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: all persons leading an activity should be aware of their responsibilities as trip leader and make sure the activity is within your abilities. You are responsible for the safety of your party. For all persons signing up for a trip, do the homework necessary to be a good follower: read the guidebook, study the map, and come prepared. Be safe and have a good time! A signed release form (see the back of this issue) is required for all non-Boealps members participating on a club outing. Send the signed release form to the activities chair.*

**Submit activities to**  
David Hamilton  
206-297-7353  
dhamilton@MuseumOfFlight.org

**North Cascades X-Country Ski Trip -**

**Jan. 19-21, 2001**

Join us for another fabulous XC ski weekend! This year we'll be in the Methow Valley at the Westar Lodge, located off the W. Chewuch Road. The lodge has 7 double beds + 16 single beds to sleep 30, **and yes there is a hot tub!** **For more info, look at:**  
**<http://www.shepnet.com/westar/>**

**Included:** Friday & Saturday night lodging with Saturday breakfast/dinner and Sunday breakfast. **Cost:** \$50 Adults, \$45 Children under 12, \$40 6 and under.

Sign-up as soon as possible! \$25 holds a spot, full payment 2 weeks prior to trip, Jan 14. The Methow Valley Sport Touring Association maintains over 175 km of groomed trails (beginner to advanced) in the pristine wilderness, including hut-to-hut skiing. Recent trail fees were \$13/day or \$30/weekend.

Please send your deposit (make checks payable to Elden Altizer) and sign-up to:  
Elden Altizer  
M/C OT-UA  
5639 126<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue WA 98006

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of People: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_



**Westar Lodge, Methow Valley**

## **Boealps Programs**

By Micah Lambeth and Victor Yagi, Masters of Ceremony

In addition to covering regular club business, our December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be featuring two shows. The mini-show will feature Courtney Schurman of "Body Results" discussing climbing fitness and conditioning. Courtney has developed training programs designed specifically for - there will likely be active participation in the form of stretching, etc. Courtney answers questions on the new Cascade Climber's web page forum (<http://www.cascadeclimbers.com>), and her company has its own web site at <http://www.bodyresults.com>

The main show of the evening will feature Drs. Martha Johnson and Dana Lynch, who will be presenting ER, Nepal style! Martha and Dana volunteered at the Himalayan Rescue Association medical clinic in Pheriche, Nepal. They will tell stories from their travels and talk about what it's like being a volunteer doctor at 14,000 feet. For those of you planning a trip, Dr. Martha will give some tips on how to stay healthy while tromping around in high places in remote lands.

Social half hour starts at the Oxbow Recreation Center at 7:00 on December 7th, and the meeting will start promptly at 7:30.

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## **Boealps University**

Len Kannapell, Dean of Admissions

### **Avalanche Seminar with Gary Brill**

Learn how to recognize avalanche terrain and potential hazards, and practice using an avalanche transceiver. These are invaluable skills for everyone, and this could be the best investment you could make to enhance your safety and that of your fellow climbers.



Class dates: Tuesday, Dec. 12; Wednesday, Jan.3; and Wednesday, Jan.10 6:30 - 9:30 pm

Where: Customer Services Center cafeteria (where the Basic Class meets - contact me if you need directions).

Class field trip: Saturday, Jan.6 or Sunday, Jan.7 (probably Stevens Pass, Baker or Blewitt) Cannot guarantee which of the two days you get, so be prepared for either.

Student limit: 20

Student cost: \$80 (check payable to Len Kannapell). First come, first serve. I'll make a waiting list if we have an overflow.

Students need a single frequency 457 kHz beacon (Ortovox M1, the new M2, DTS Tracker, Pieps 457 - no earplug type transceivers allowed). If you don't own one, check with one of the Equipment chairs. If unavailable, you can rent from Gary for \$10 additional.

## **Boealps Online**

By Rob James

### **Current conditions**

As you may have noticed, the snow season is just about upon us. Ever wondered what the snow coverage was like at your favorite ski spot? Or wanted to brag about the epic ice climb you did last weekend? Well, check out the 'conditions bulletins' on our web page. Just click on the yellow bar on the left-hand side of the page (at <http://boealps.org>). This is an interactive system, so you can read all the entries and/or add your own in real time by clicking the 'add a message' link at the top of the page. If we all enter a brief description of the last trip we did we should build up a quite a nice database of the conditions around the state. Very handy for planning your next outing! Don't worry about messing the page up, I can always clean it up later. Give it a go. If it starts to get too big (hopefully!) to scan quickly, I'll add a search engine to the page.

Also, checkout the Noticeboard - that's interactive now too. So if you need partners to help haul you up your next objective try advertising here.

### **Route Beta**

If you're after route beta, try the search engines located on the 'Newsletter' page (which is also where you'll find the current edition of the Echo, and all the back issues). Just entering a short word like "rainier" or name like 'outer space' should bring up some old reports for you. You could also search on the name of someone you know who might have reported on it, or even something that happened on the climb like 'benighted' or 'moon'. The first search engine will locate any occurrences of your search in the on-line archive; you can then just click on one of the links displayed to take you to that issue of the echo. The second search engine only searches the list of peaks/routes that have reports in old Echos (pre 1997) and lists the year and month of the Echo the report was in - to read these you'll have to visit the club library at the Oxbow center.

Cheers ...Rob 'I don't do approaches, or practically anything now we've got 2 kids' Webmaster James

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## **WANTED – BASIC CLIMBING CLASS INSTRUCTORS**

If you are interested in helping out with the 2001 Basic Climbing Class, and did not instruct in the 2000 class, please contact Rich Privett at (206) 662-1520 (w), (206) 988-6921 (h) or [richard.t.privett@boeing.com](mailto:richard.t.privett@boeing.com). Everyone who instructed in 2000 will automatically get an instructor commitment form around the beginning of the year. If you have never instructed for the Basic Climbing Class in the past, you will need to fill out an information and application form along with the commitment form. All instructors are required to have taken MOFA or have proof of equivalent training.



**They need our help!**



## **CONSERVATION CORNER**

By Troy Colyer

The Clinton administration wants to ban all commercial logging on nearly 60 million acres of roadless forest land, including parts of the country's largest forest, Alaska's Tongass National Forest. Following public comment from 1.1 million people, the Forest Service yesterday announced plans to toughen environmental protections proposed under its controversial roadless initiative.

The latest announcement not only would prohibit new roads in so-called "inventoried" roadless areas of 5,000 acres or greater, but also would - as conservation groups requested - ban timber harvests. While the earlier road ban would have had the practical effect of condemning the practice, the new proposal also promises to extend those protections to the Tongass beginning in April 2004, rather than just considering those protections in four years. While a final rule based on yesterday's announcement will be issued sometime after Dec. 18, many conservation groups already were claiming victory.

In Washington and Oregon, the controversial plan essentially maintains the status quo. While it would ban roads on nearly 4 million acres in the region, road construction already was banned under forest plans on more than half that land. On the remaining portions, only 12 miles of road was planned for construction. About 8 million board feet of timber was proposed for sale. In the Tongass, however, as much as 100 million board feet of timber is cut in roadless areas each year.

*Source: Seattle Times*

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### **Agris Moruss Memorial Fund**

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2001 Agris Moruss memorial Fund grant. The grant is offered each year to help meet the expenses of a worthy climbing endeavor attempted by Boealps members. Past grants have been awarded for climbing trips all around the globe. The trip's sense of exploration and level of challenge for the applying climbers is more important than the technical difficulty of the trip's objective when the decision to award the grant is made. The size of the grant is at the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees, but it is generally about \$100.

The grant is offered in memory of Agris Moruss, a long time club member and an active climber who lost his life leading a Basic Class climb of Lundin Peak in 1982. The only application requirements are that you are a current Boealps member, you attempt the climbing trip during 2000, and (if awarded the grant) that you write a letter of appreciation to Agris' father. In addition, I personally ask that you write up a trip report for the Echo.

Later in this month's Echo you will find an article that includes a brief biography of Agris and provides more details about the fund. You may apply by writing a letter outlining your trip and the reason you feel it meets the criteria for the grant. Applications must be received by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000. Send the application to Norene Borg at M/S 94-16. If you're not a Boeing employee, drop her a note at LilBiner@hotmail.com, and she'll let you know how to get your application to her.



**BE PREPARED**

**BE SAFE**



**MOFA CLASS  
2001**

Boealps is offering a Mountaineering Oriented First Aid class in January/February 2001. This course is designed to prepare you to deal effectively with accidents which can occur in remote areas where professional medical help is not readily available. Eight classroom sessions, including hands-on scenarios held outdoor, will be followed by two evenings of practical exams conducted in conjunction with other MOFA classes at Camp Long in West Seattle. Graduates will receive American Red Cross Standard First Aid and CPR certification cards and a MOFA card.

This course is recommended for all Boealps members and is required for all first-time Boealps Basic Class Instructors. A **MOFA refresher** class will be offered in March. Send Joyce Holloway an e-mail if you are interested.

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays (January 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, February 6, 8, 13, and 15.  
(Camp Long dates, Feb 13 and 15, to be confirmed next month).

Time: 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Locations: Boeing Customer Service Center

Cost: Approximately \$50 (exact amount will be determined after 1<sup>st</sup> class)

Class Size: Approximately 24 persons

Instructors: Kathy Hasegawa, Joyce Holloway and Chris Rudesill

The class will be filled in the order that registration forms are received. **To reserve your space, return the registration form and \$50 in the form of a check payable to Joyce Holloway.**

If you have any questions, please call:

Name	E-Mail	Work Phone	Home Phone
Kathy Hasegawa	<a href="mailto:Khibachi@aol.com">Khibachi@aol.com</a>		(206) 527-5281
Joyce Holloway	<a href="mailto:Joyce.R.Holloway@boeing.com">Joyce.R.Holloway@boeing.com</a>	(425) 477-4393	(425) 888-4434
Chris Rudesill	<a href="mailto:Christopher.C.Rudesill@boeing.com">Christopher.C.Rudesill@boeing.com</a>	(425) 965-2683	(206) 772-1869

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**BOEALPS MOFA REGISTRATION FORM**

Name:

Mail Stop:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

E-Mail:

(Required to obtain a syllabus in advance for reading assignments)

**COMPLETE THE INFORMATION AND RETURN THIS FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT (check payable to "Joyce Holloway") TO: Joyce Holloway M/S 6F-06 or 15704 451<sup>st</sup> Ave SE, North Bend, WA 98045**

## Club Equipment for Loan

All of the equipment below is available for loan to club members. The gear is for members to try out different types of high priced items to help them decide which one to buy for themselves, or to borrow items that they would infrequently use so would not want to buy. It is not to replace gear that a member should buy for him/herself. Members can check out only one of each item (unless they have a family membership); we don't loan gear for non-members to freeload off their Boealps friends with. There is no charge for the equipment, but if you bend it, you mend it. The maximum loan period is for one week, and the equipment must be used within Washington. Loans for equipment to be used on a trip outside of Washington, or for a period of more than one week can be made with prior board approval. Equipment must be returned to the same location it was checked out from, and can't be passed directly on to another Boealps member, since the condition of each item needs to be checked after each use.

The equipment committee is always interested to hear suggestions from members about what gear they feel would be a good addition to the inventory. Keep in mind, however, that club equipment is chosen for its versatility and toughness. The rare purchase of superlight, superexpensive tents and the like have proved to be inappropriate - the gear doesn't last as long. Likewise the suggestion of a club parka or sleeping bag would require more maintenance (cleaning), and would be size dependent. Also - is there a need for a Woodinville location, or are Everett, Renton and Seattle enough?

-- Silas Wild  
silaswild@yahoo.com

Brand	Style	Description	Renton	Seattle	Everett
DTS	Trakker	Avalanche Beacon transceiver (needs 3 AAA batteries)	0	4	0
Pieps	SF457KHz	Avalanche Beacon transceiver (needs 2 AA batteries)	3	1	1
Ortovox	Dual frequency	Avalanche Beacon transceiver (needs 2 AA batteries)	5	2	2
Garmin	GPS 40	Global Positioning System receiver (needs 4 AA batteries)	0	1	0
Simond	Chigal	Waterfall Ice Hammer	1	0	0
Simond	Piranha	Waterfall Ice Hammer	0	1	0
Charlet Moser	Quasar	Ice Hammer (for steep ice, not an alpine tool)	0	1	0
Camp	Hypercouloir	Ice Hammer with Alpine Pick	0	1	0
Lowe	Humming bird	Alpine Ice Hammer	0	0	1
Black Diamond	X-15	Alpine Ice Hammer	1	0	0
Hagan	Alpin T1	180 cm touring skis (with skins) for mountaineering boots	1	1	1
Sherpa	Featherweight	Medium snowshoe - good for climbing	5	1	2
Sherpa	Lightfoot	Large snowshoe - good for deep, soft snow	1	0	1

Tubbs	Kathadin	Small snowshoe - best for total weight less than 170 pounds	2	1	0
Shoo	Large	Light snowshoe for recreational hiking	0	1	0
Shoo	Small	Super light snowshoe for recreational hiking	1	0	0
MSR	Denali Llama	Snowshoes with wing attachments	1	0	1
REI	Wedge	Lightweight 2 person 3 season tent (5 lbs)	0	0	1
Sierra Designs	Half Moon	Lightweight 2 person 3 season tent (5 lbs)	0	1	0
Walrus	Rocket	Lightweight 2 person 3 season tent (5 lbs)	1	0	0
Windy Pass	#24	2-3 person 4 season tent (8.5 lbs)	0	0	1
Sierra Designs	Stretch Dome	2-3 person 4 season tent (10 lbs)	1	0	0
North Face	Pole Sleeve Oval	3 person expedition tent (11 lbs)	0	1	0
Moss	Little Dipper	3 person expedition tent (12 lbs)	0	1	0
Moss	Star Gazer	2-3 person 4 season tent (8.5 lbs)	1	0	0
Wilderness Experience	Equinox	4 person 3 season tent (11 lbs)	0	1	0
Eureka	Sentinel	4 person 4 season tent (11.5 pounds)	0	1	0
Sierra Designs	Base Camp	4 person 3 season tent (12 lbs)	1	0	0
REI	Mountain Home	4 person 3 season tent (12 lbs)	1	0	0
Walrus	Eclipse	4 person expedition tent (14 lbs)	1	0	0
Moss	Big Dipper	4 person expedition tent (15 lbs)	1	0	0
Sierra Design	Kingdome	5 person 3 season tent (13 lbs)	1	0	0
REI	Great Pyramid	5 person recreational tent (15 lbs)	0	0	1
Windy Pass	Shangri La	4-6 person 3 season tent (15 lbs)	0	0	1
North Face	Himalayan Hotel	4-6 person 4 season tent (16 lbs)	1	0	0
A5/North Face		2 person Portaledge with expedition fly	0	1	0

Equipment Officers:

Renton: Mike Jacobsen, (253)657-1438, michael.t.jacobsen@boeing.com

Seattle: Silas Wild, (206)527-9453, silaswild@yahoo.com

Everett: Andy Roth, (425)342-1308, andrew.s.roth@boeing.com

## **The Agris Moruss Memorial Fund**

Agris Moruss was born in Latvia in 1941, the scene of bitter battles between German and Russian troops during World War II. He spent his early years in a displaced persons camp in Germany before coming to Longview, Washington with his family in 1949. He received his degree in Engineering from the University of Washington, then joined Boeing.

He took the Boealps Basic Climbing Class in 1964. Not only was he by far the strongest student, but also one of the most popular, both with his fellow students and his instructors. His quiet manner, his willingness to always do far more than his share and his unforgettable smile left their mark.

After the class ended, he climbed virtually every weekend, with instructors, classmates, and others. While he quickly demonstrated his ability to successfully climb at ever-higher levels, he seemed equally happy being on modest routes with companions of mediocre abilities and stamina.

Less than two years after finishing the Basic Class, he was invited to join some of his instructors and other veteran climbers on a climb of Mt. McKinley. Though he had only a fraction of the experience of the other party members, he pulled the heaviest sled, led the toughest pitches, carried the heaviest pack, and always did far more than his share of camp chores. Returning from the summit, the team members gave him a book inscribed "To the most inspirational member of the 1976 McKinley Expedition."

Agris began instructing the Boealps Basic Climbing Class in 1977, generously sharing his energy and enthusiasm with students and fellow instructors alike. Unlike some of the other instructors, he would patiently follow the slowest students down from the summits, occasionally carrying their packs atop of his. He cheerfully took the least popular routes, and, on more than one occasion, assisted in evacuating students who were fatigued, or had been injured.

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1980 eight teams from the Basic Class set out from Narada Falls and Longmire aiming at virtually all of the Tatoosh Range summits. When Mt. Saint Helens erupted that morning, the sky suddenly turned black, as did the ash-covered snow. All the climbers and instructors quickly forgot their summit bids and thought only of a quick descent. All except for Agris. He kicked steps straight up to the top of a steep ridge at an incredible pace "just to see if I could get a better view!"

In 1982 Agris decided to take a sabbatical from teaching to accomplish some other goals. One of these was to run the Boston Marathon, his first ever marathon. His goals were to finish in less than four hours and within the first two thousand. He accomplished both. On a Sunday morning just two weeks later he showed up at Snoqualmie Pass, volunteering to fill in for a missing instructor and take a team of Basic Class students up Lundin Peak. The summit rocks were covered with a very thin layer of frozen fog. Agris was within just a few feet of reaching a solid anchor where he could safely belay the rest of his party to the summit when he slipped and disappeared into the whiteout far below.

A few days later more than a thousand of those who had been privileged to have known Agris gathered for a memorial service. Not only were there hundreds of climbers, but also his skiing friend, his bicycling companions, his fellow workers from Boeing, and hundreds of friends of all ages from the Northwest Latvian community. Many of those wanted to contribute "something to help us remember Agris." By the end of the evening, well over a thousand dollars had been left on a table. That is how the Agris Moruss Memorial Fund began – very spontaneously and very emotionally.

Over the years the fund has grown, through additional donations and through appreciation. Each year applications are considered for a grant or grants from the fund. Those applications which best exemplify the spirit in which Agris climbed, and where such a grant might significantly support the attainment of a challenging mountaineering objective, have been awarded financial assistance.

## Winter Driving Regulations

Here's a couple of Washington State Administrative Codes (WAC) that you might find interesting regarding winter driving conditions, and when you're required to have chains. This is particularly relevant to those of you with four wheel drive vehicles - even if you don't have to chain up, you are still required to have chains in the car or truck!

### **WAC 204-24-050: Use of tire chains or other traction devices.**

- (1) Vehicles under 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight
  - (a) When traffic control signs marked "approved traction tires required" are posted by the department of transportation it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to enter the controlled area without having mounted on its drive tires at least one of the traction devices meeting the requirements of WAC 204-24-040.
  - (b) When traffic control signs marked "chains required" are posted by the department of transportation it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to enter the controlled area without having mounted on its drive tires, tire chains meeting the standards in chapter 204-22 WAC.
  - (i) Exception for all wheel drive vehicles. When "chains required" signs are posted, all-wheel drive vehicles shall be exempt from the chain requirement when all wheels are in gear and are equipped with approved traction devices as specified in WAC 204-24-040 provided that tire chains for at least one set of drive tires are carried in the vehicle.

### **WAC 204-24-040 Traction devices.**

The following equipment items are approved by the state patrol for use as traction devices wherever traction devices are required by the department of transportation:

- (1) Tire chains meeting the standards in chapter 204-22 WAC.
- (2) Studded tires meeting the standards in WAC 204-24-030.
- (3) Approved traction tires. An approved traction tire shall have the following tread characteristics:
  - (a) A minimum of 4/32 inch tread, measured in the center portion of the tire at three locations equally spaced around the circumference of the tire.
  - (b) A relatively aggressive tread pattern designed primarily to provide additional starting, stopping, and driving traction on snow or ice. The tread shall have ribs, lugs, blocks or buttons, the edges of which are at an angle greater than thirty degrees to the tire circumferential centerline.
  - (c) On at least one side of the tread design, the shoulder lugs protrude at least ½ inch in a direction generally perpendicular to the direction of travel.
  - (d) Tires manufactured to meet these specifications shall be permanently labeled on at least one sidewall with the words "mud and snow" or any contraction using the letters "M" and "S" (e.g. MS, M/S, M&S, etc.).
- (4) Special tires specifically designed to improve stopping, traction, and cornering abilities of the tire on ice or snow may be approved by the state patrol as an approved traction device.

## Short Trip Reports

### By David Hamilton

#### Sept 23 - Liberty Bell & 1/2 Concorde Tower

Rich Privett and I went up to meet Bob Albright, a California climber up here on a business trip for Boeing, for a climb of Liberty Bell. After spending a cold, but crystal clear, night out in the moonlight, we headed up to the notch to find ourselves being the first party for the day. Ol' Bob is a cool guy so if y'all ever get a chance to climb with him, here or in CA, it'll be some good climbing.

After Rich donned his pair of 1970 Chucks, we started up this cold rock. We had a dandy time going up this thing and I would like to point out to Paul "Tarzan" Cook that we went the wrong way on the third pitch way back when, buddy. After Rich lead the second pitch, Bob took his turn and went across the fingertip traverse and on up to the promised land.

I tell ya', we had one helluva day. It was absolutely beautiful up there. Too bad I didn't bring an 1100-foot rope for a killer rappel down Liberty Crack! As it was, we took in the scenery, smiled, found some apple juice and decided to give Ms. Concorde a dance.

Now, there's nothing like waiting for a team to get moving on the route you want to do when the female belayer drops trou right in front of you, no warning, for the call of nature. She did a real good job of doing it on the only level area for the belayer to stand. Mr. Bob led on up this cold rock, and I mean it was cold! Amazing what the shade does. After a bit we got to my lead for the second pitch. Now Rich and Bob sure did have a slow-motion drama that they could observe calmly standing on firm ground. I guess I was standing on firm ground, I just didn't like that it was sloping down and I had nothing to solidly grasp as I struggled to place protection. Call the wambulance, I know, but it was quite an experience (read: sphincter factor 10) to have my feet smearing this slab while I used both hands (because there's nothing solid to hold on to) to place protection. On this awkward 5.6 traverse I found the bolt placed for the squirrels who climb this. I mean, this bolt must have been placed for humor, it looked pretty darned small. And don't forget about the loose piton you can pull out if you want to. So I got in a little bind when I got to a funky area and my last piece popped. Not too bad until Rich screams up, "Is your last piece good?!" Well I knew it wasn't but that vote of confidence gave me noodle legs. Up the creek, my nervous hand dropped the stopper I wanted to place. Without a paddle, I wedged two stoppers (like my life depended on it, sorry for who ever had to clean) and made for the belay station. Beginners unite, I didn't fall! Of course the belay station is anchored to this huge boulder that's resting on the ledge. It's solid, I think.

Ah, we had a good time.

#### October 14-15, Coleman Glacier, Mt. Baker

Alex Van Steen's ice climbing instruction was cool and it was held the last weekend before snow enveloped everything. We brought fire logs, we played charades – "A Connecticut \_\_\_\_\_ in King Arthur's Court"? After watching me attempt that one I bet half the people out there think I'm nuttier than a Kannapell on a tree, while the other half may be able to fill in the blank. And who will ever forget my wonderful rendition of "Scrooged"?

#### October 29, The Tooth

Gary Ryder and I went up a dusting of snow and mist to climb. We met two other teams, two guys from Norway and two guys from Brooklyn. The Tooth is a fun climb and we had relatively good weather with no precip that day. Gary chose to lead the 5.6 face on the last pitch. We enjoyed the views and got some good pics before we tied our rope to the Norwegian guy's rope for the descent.

Unfortunately the knot got stuck on the last rappel to the notch and I wound up committing to moves some 100 plus feet up tied in with only a prusik (the other rope was anchored). There's nothing like committing to moves 100 or so feet up with a simple prusik between you and the gnarly tooth! Still, I got to do one more rappel than they did. We rappelled down the notch to the scree field, thereby bypassing Pineapple Pass. It was then dusk and the Norwegians and Brooklynites didn't have any flashlights. The Norwegians sprouted three extra sets of eyes and made it to the trail and cars on their own in the dark while the Brooklynites stuck with us as we blindly went straight for the trail. Maybe I should climb something other than the Tooth now?

Everybody that's reading this better give poor Matt some more reports. I bet Matt himself could write a few. Or Rob James, Slum Lord, Rock Mobster, Purty Lady, or any other Boealper.

*(Editor's note: What he said! I'll write up one of my adventures for next month's Echo, but I'd better get some trip reports from a few others of you as well!)*

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## **Big Al's Big Adventure, continued**

### **The Continuing Travels of Al Baal**

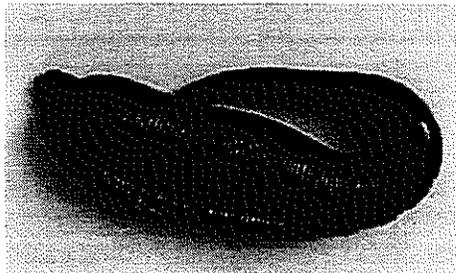
**Friday, November 10**

I met up with my six climbing partners at the Calcutta airport. Their plane was over 30 minutes late, making our mad dash for our next flight to Bagdogera even crazier with all the body searches they did on us.

In Bagdogera we piled into two jeeps and headed off to visit Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim. Gangtok lies on a ridge with fine views of the Kangchenjunga range. Enchey Monastery, on the ridge top above town, is over 200 years old.

After Gangtok, we had a 7-hour jeep ride to Yuksom, where we were going to start our trek, and I got my first blood sucking leech. The only problem (besides getting used to leeches!) was that the yaks we were going to use were not there. Our sirdar (head guide), Targain, did his best to come up with a few horses and more porters (17 in all). That night, some of the new porters started a mutiny and we ended up two sleeping bags shy for the night, but we found ways to keep warm.

It seems like every day something was going on. For instance, on the second day of our trek, a Sherpa from a different group spilled a massive amount of kerosene on himself. As we were eating lunch he ran around us completely engulfed in flames! We were in shock for a few seconds before we helped to knock him to the ground and put out the flames. We then treated him for first and second degree burns. To this day, we warn our guide that we do not want any more flaming Sherpas!



**A leech – yuck!**

## The Continuing Saga of Dan Goering

Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>: Greetings from Split, Croatia!

Still catching up so, as promised, I'll start by describing some of our cultural and gastronomic tour of Italy.

Italy has been interesting with a few peculiarities. For instance, their sinks often have no knobs to turn on the water. Instead you step on an accelerator-like floor pedal! And in Italy, like most third world nations, the budget traveler should carry their own supply of toilet paper! Public restrooms are rare and even cafe toilets often have no paper. Another interesting practice apparently shared with much of the rest of Europe is eating raw bacon, usually in sandwiches. I always thought raw pork was dangerous because of trichinosis. Is that just an old wives tale?

Venice hits you with all the charm and ambiance for which it is renowned. Walk just a short distance from the bustling Piazza Roma where all busses and trains stop and where all cars must be parked and left and you are quickly immersed in its maze of twisting, narrow, and occasionally blind, alleys. With the quiet dawns the realization of how much noise we accept by living in the midst of traffic. Wash hangs drying on lines from the windows above and neighbors converse from facing windows on the upper floors.

But in the midst of all this charm, it is wise for you to beware of scams! The city is slowly sinking each year as a result of its soggy foundations (shallow sea floor filled in with sand to bring it above waterline) but I suspect locals blame some (or most?) of this effect on all the extra weight of the tourist hoards who swarm into it each year. Reportedly, they are actively discouraging increased tourism. I can almost imagine the city council proposals: "Lets put lots of signs up for public restrooms that just lead in circles and when they happen upon one, it'll be closed for repair!" or "Lets charge \$15 US per day in the parking garage whether they stay 5 minutes or 24 hours!"

Fortunately, there are not one but two McDonalds in the old town and the intrepid traveler knows that McDonalds is the place to pee! (Certainly never to eat.) After our first day, we left the Smartcar in Camping Rialto to guard our little blue tent and hopped the bus into town.

The canals and water culture are the highlight of Venice. There, streets are only for pedestrians so, as you stroll along inhaling the salty smelling air, a continual parade of boats pass on the canals: white "bus" boats, polished black gondolas with lovey couples or camera pointing tourists, delivery boats stacked with jugs of wine, bales of toilet paper and other essentials, and perhaps most common of all, the reconstruction/restoration barges full of tool toting burley guys and broken chunks of former buildings. At high tide, the water laps slightly over the bottom of many buildings doors and there appears to be plenty of construction work going on raising the inside floor levels. Patty and I were going to take a gondola ride until we discovered the \$100 US per hour cost! Instead, we hopped a water bus to the other end of town and had a nice hour long tour of the Grand Canal for \$3 each.

Once you start walking, you can wander for hours without being sure of where you are. At the end of the day, just follow the prominent yellow signs pointing the way back out of town to the Piazza Roma. Unlike the bathroom signs, the Piazza Roma signs actually get you there!

Light rain dampened our hair our second morning and water seeping up from the drains in the plaza in front of St. Marks cathedral created a series of shallow lakes. Raised wooden walkways had been set up to direct the stream of visitors into the cathedral with minimal transfer of water inside and we joined the queue. The front of the cathedral is an impressive collection of gothic spires interspersed with white statues of saints and other important figures who I never did become acquainted with. In the center of the upper balconade are bronze statues of four prancing horses. These are copies of the originals which are now preserved inside after being brought to Venice after the Venicians conquered and sacked Constantinople in the mid-13th century. In his heyday,

Napoleon also took a shining to these horses and hauled them back to France, but they were eventually returned to St. Marks.

The stone mosaic floors inside are amazing, laid out in complex patterns and colors that give the appearance of ornate Turkish carpets when viewed from the balcony above. The treasure room contained many items also taken from Constantinople, and one room dedicated to the relics of saints. A relic is a sparking jewel studded case of gold and silver, usually equipped with a small window. Peering inside, you can see the preserved body parts of various dead. Hands, toes, teeth, femurs, hair, they're all on display. I personally find this Roman Catholic practice of dead body part worship kind of a strange but it is certainly wide spread. Back in Budapest, Hungary, we got to see the shriveled right hand of St. Steven, Hungary's first king back in 1000 AD. For their big millennium celebration this year, Hungary rented St. Steven's skull from Croatia!

Another amazing sight we encountered just outside the treasure room was Dave and Judy Eggold. I worked with Dave at Boeing and with no coordination, we happened to meet up that morning in St. Marks! It was fun to hear some first hand news from back home and we shared a great lunch together before parting.

That afternoon, Patty and I did the 3-hour marathon tour of the extensive displays in the former Doge's Palace adjacent to St. Marks. Venice was an independent city-state of considerable influence from around 1400 until Napoleon showed up around 1800, and the Doge was the elected ruler of their vast trade empire. Their city symbol of a winged lion can still be seen in the architecture of many cities along the Adriatic and Mediterranean. Today, Venice is a crumbling version of its former self but the Palace museum attempts to restore some of the former glory by pointing out to you in most displays its former splendor, magnificence and importance.

The gastronomic tour had a rocky start. It was a dark and rainy morning when we packed our muddy tent at Camping Rialto. The night's pounding rain had lulled and we were tempted to stop back by St. Marks to see how deep the water in the square was. Convertible roof was up. Patty had been told more than once that Bologna is the place in Italy for really good food and that's where we were headed.

Around 4:30 pm still an hour away and just outside Ferrara, we pulled over on a whim to the "Thelma and Louise" Restaurant (named after the movie) and discovered a heavenly odor emanating from behind the locked door. Open at 17:30 said the door (most places and people here in Europe like using military time). We marched back to our Smartcar to read until the appointed hour. At 5:30 pm, the door was still locked and passers-by told us it would open at 19:30. Back to the car.

Finally 2.5 hours later, quite famished, we excitedly strolled in the front door to be told the place was completely booked out for the night. We looked uncomprehendingly at each other and back at the woman who'd just spouted this news, wildly waiting for her to respond to our crushed faces, take pity, and with a kind conspiratorial smile lead us to a tiny back table. Instead, she gave us a dismissive "Arrivaderci" and disappeared back to the kitchen, leaving us to wander dejectedly back to the car. We eventually ended up at another movie theme restaurant in Ferrara – the 1996 movie "The Big Night" (set in 1959: Italian brothers labor to create the perfect evening paradise meal for an expected food critic) for some good pumpkin ravioli and some passable lamb. 11 pm found us standing in front of the locked gate of the local campground. Through thick fog, we crept onto a side road to look for a pullout where we could throw out our sleeping bags. Every pullout was occupied by steamed up cars of necking teenagers. Finally, we found an open spot where the road dead-ended next to the local dog pound. The sun had to come out again soon!

Rain continued through our 3 days in Bologna, my glasses disappeared from the campground shower room where I'd forgotten them for a couple of hours, and the food in town was mostly underwhelming. We weren't out for fancy schmancy food, but just good hearty traditional Italian fare. It was difficult to get good eatery recommendations, even from the guidebooks, but we forged ahead asking hotel clerks, barbers, or whoever was around for their recommendations. The highlight turned out to be Gianni's Gelato and we managed to sample nearly every flavor of their rich creamy selection by making at least two stops a day.

Finally we bailed out and headed north looking for sun. We found it in Verona. Despite its reputation of being famous for its "boiled meats", we checked into the Youth Hostel for 2 nights and then wandered this charming town of Romeo and Juliet with its well-preserved city walls, winding river and bridges and intact Roman arena where plays and concerts have replaced battling gladiators on the billing. The Shakespeare tale, while quite romantic, is also not quite true but in the interests of tourism, the locals have selected suitable locations to represent the former houses of these literary celebrities and people naturally flock to see them. Part of our time was spent in search of a bottle of Barolo wine, highly recommended by our friend-in-the-know Johnny Jain and made from the difficult to cultivate nebbiolo grape. Bottle in hand, we moved on to Crema (E. of Milan) where Erika and Enzo were expecting us Saturday morning.

On the way, we stopped by the Museum of Olive Oil on the Lago di Garda near Lasize with its interesting display of the history of oil press technology and its wonderful free samples room! The displays had a number of interesting quotes about uses of olives. Guiseppe Falcone of Venice said back in 1603 "Without eating olives or using them to make medicines, the human body could not stay healthy." (Fortunately, early Americans were able to show that beef fat is a suitable substitute.) Another favorite 17th century for a hemorrhoid ointment began "Take a live eel ...." and perhaps a more useful remedy, this one for avoiding drunkenness (from Maria Bomardo Fratregiano of Treviso, 1631) by drinking a half glass of olive oil before any booze.

We'd met Erika and Enzo on a boat trip in Turkey months before and they'd invited us to come for a weekend of Italian wines if we made it to their area. Enzo, dark hair, kind eyes and an easy smile works for the telephone company but his real passions are history and scuba diving. Their apartment is like a small historical museum with artifacts he's found while diving and elsewhere. Erika, tall, long dark hair and eyes with a smoldering fire behind them is a physical therapist and also an avid scuba diver. This would be our last weekend in Italy as the Smartcar was due back in Innsbruck on Monday. And as it turned out, this last weekend was the highlight of the gastronomic tour. After a short tour of ruins in the town of Brescia, we met up with their friends Andy and Sylvia and headed for the vineyards of Franciacorte.

When we arrived, the tractors were parked, the grapes were harvested and separated leaving an immense pile of stems, and the workers were celebrating this completion with bottles of champagne and bags of cookies and potato chips. We were handed our own glasses of bubbly as we looked over the processing equipment and asked questions with Andy or Enzo translating. I wondered what then happened to the piles of grape stems and learned that they are used to make that Italian classic grappa. Next we were offered a sampling of their 1999 Franciacorte red table wine - quite good! - before starting a short tour of the champagne production process.

Champagne is fermented in the bottle for two years, and sometimes three if the grape is of exceptional quality. Stepping into the dim light of the storage room, thousands of bottles, dust covered and stacked on their sides in wire cases, stretched out before us. Most have simple metal bottle caps at this stage, but a few have pressure gages installed to monitor the progress of the fermentation. When fermentation is done, the yeast in each bottle must be removed. The bottles are moved from the wire cases to rows and rows of wooden racks which hold each bottle neck down at around a 60 degree angle. Each day, each bottle is hand turned a quarter turn and placed back in the rack until it has made two complete rotations. At this point, the yeast has all settled into the neck and is removed by flash freezing just the neck. When the metal cap is removed, the internal pressure blows the ice plug with all the yeast sediment out. A small amount of "liquer" is added to top off the bottle, and the cork and label are installed. Each producer has a secret house recipe for the "liquer" that is added, giving their brand its own distinctive taste. After corking, the champagne should be drunk within 6 months and does not get better with time as do many wines.

That evening we found the gastronomic delights of Italy we had been seeking at "The Three Shovels" trattoria. Our hosts had made reservations and that is the only way to eat here, as it isn't a regular restaurant. The owner is a man who loves to cook fantastic food for small groups, and this is done by appointment only. You call up a day or two before, he tells you what he will be preparing that evening (heavily dependent on which fresh ingredients are currently available) and you decide whether you wish to partake or not.

We were a bit early and so Enzo had to knock. Our chef, a mid forties fellow with short cropped dark hair led us into a room right out of an renaissance Italian painting of a classic dinner: large fireplace, dark wood window casings, tray of pears and grapes on the center table along with several bottles of wine and the two outside tables all set for dinner. The walls displayed mostly still-life paintings of wild game but one stood apart: a brush-and-pallet-in-hand self portrait done by our chef in a kind of distorted perspective which made his head seem much smaller than his body. I decided I liked the guy already.

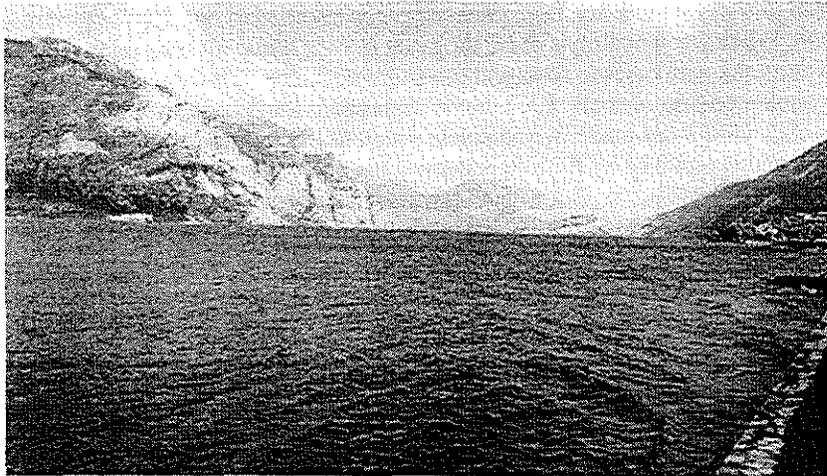
We were there until late, eating a seven course dinner featuring fresh Porcini mushrooms from the region and complimented with many bottles of good red Franciacorte Tenuta Prierie from the Mingotti winery:

- Course 1: Beautiful marbled salami with bread (Enzo warns me to go easy on the bread!)
- #2 Thin sliced ham with marinated porcini and bits of parsley
- #3 Porcini baked in aluminum foil with olive oil and parsley
- #4 Hand made trofia pasta with porcini
- #5 Fiorentina (a huge nearly raw cut of incredibly tender beef)
- #6 Beef taliata (ie thinly sliced) with porcini
- #7 Dessert of fresh pear cake

Sunday, Erika showed us around Cremona - the center of violin making in Italy and home to Antonia Stradavari during the heyday of production in the 16th century. Alas, all the last of the great masters died during the decade from 1737 to 1747 and their art was lost. Storioni restarted the trade on his own in the late 16th century but is know primarily because his instruments demonstrate by their inferior quality how much was lost when the masters all died.

Monday morning found us racing our Smartcar back towards Innsbruck , top all-the-way-down and warm sun taking off the chill of the rushing fall air. Switch-backed roads led through apple harvest in full swing at the north end of Lago di Garda and we paused long enough to pluck two ripe golden delicious apples off a tree too near the road. Brenner Pass on the border with Austria lay under a significant cover of new snow and we felt the first chill of winter before dropping into Innsbruck just before the Avis office closed.

We settled back in with Edith and Wolfgang in Dornbirn that night, earning our keep over the next week by appearing as guests for the students in their English language classes. We also managed to scrape up two budget tickets from Vienna to Katmandu on November 1st before launching into our last European adventure: Croatia! On the agenda are some warm sunny days exploring the Dalmation Coast and some rock climbing in Paclenica Canyon with our Solvenian friends the Trobis's. I expect the next update with originate from Katmandu and by that time, we'll know who's running the US for the next four years! *(Editors note: Maybe!)*



**The beautiful north end of Lago di Garda**

## Patagonia

### By Doug Davies

*(Editor's Note: Inspired by some of our other fellow Boealper's travel diaries, Doug sent this to me. He had the good fortune to spend 3 months in South America earlier this year. Some of that time was spent in Patagonia, and here are his journal entries for those days...)*

**2/23/00 Newark, NJ 9:15 P.M. cloudy**

It's incredible how frequently the physical world resembles the biological. Or, vice versa. Flying into New Jersey it was amazing how similar the rivers with their small tributaries resembled veins and capillaries in the human body. Bruce and I are finally on our way to South America. He and I will spend 5 weeks together hiking in Patagonia and exploring Southern Chile\Argentina. Then he will fly home and I will continue on for a couple of months through Bolivia and Peru. The flight here was great. A bit long on a very full, cramped 737-700 but I got some great views. Initially, I could see parts of the Cascades in amongst the clouds. The snow-covered basins surrounded by jagged peaks stretching up to Mt. Baker were spectacular. We flew over Lake Chelan which was awesome as well. Later I saw a site I had never seen before on any flight. I don't know where we were as it was a couple of hours into the flight. When I looked out the window there was a cloud cover stretching from horizon to horizon. Perfectly smooth without variation backed by an intense blue sky in the distance. It was like flying over a different planet, possibly Venus. Or like flying over a cue ball. It was really odd and really amazing. The contrast between white and blue was startling. We must have passed over Canada or Northern Minnesota as when the clouds broke there were thousands of lakes. All were frozen and very distinctly white amongst small rolling hills. Dropping in to New Jersey we flew directly over Giant's stadium and New Your City was just across the river. I could see Manhattan Island, the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty in the harbor. No, they weren't all in the harbor, just the statue. During our 7-hour layover we caught a bus into the city and wandered around the famous streets of the Big Apple.

**2\24 Santiago, Chile: sunny Noon**

After an all night flight we are in Santiago - only my 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the Southern Hemisphere. It's 80 degrees and 7 AM at home so my co-workers are at their desks booting up the computers! Ahhhhh, holidays are good! Bruce and I are almost giddy, partly due to lack of sleep but mostly from being in a foreign country with the smell of summer in the air. It is quite refreshing. It's nice to go from winter to summer in a matter of hours. An easy acclimatization to be sure. We left home over 24 hours ago and still have 6+ hours until we arrive in our destination of Punta Arenas. I am feeling a bit tired from the fitful sleep of an airline seat. The DC-10 had a lot more room than our first flight but it was nearly full so there wasn't any extra room to stretch out in. We sat next to a couple of adorable college girls from S. Carolina coming down to study for a semester in Santiago. One thing I would definitely do differently if I had life to live over is the study abroad program. What a great opportunity! I didn't know anyone that did it when I was in school. It certainly never crossed my mind. Should I ever have kids I will certainly encourage them. As well as my nephews.

**2\24 Punta Arenas, Chile: 9:50 PM**

I am sitting in the living room of a local family that rented us a room. Amazing, we finally got here. Nearly 32 hours from the time I got in the car to go to SeaTac. It took longer than my trip to Australia! And everyone thinks it is right below the West coast! Actually, Punta Arenas is directly below Boston and most of South America is East of the East Coast. It is cloudy and maybe 55 degrees down here. It began raining about an hour ago. The flight from Santiago was mostly cloudy which was too bad. The few times the clouds parted the scenery of the Patagonian Icecap was outstanding. Large rugged mountains, massive glaciers ending in cloudy blue lakes....amazing! I am really excited to go hiking. Circling over the windswept islands of the Straits of Magellan prior to landing was spectacular as well. Although tired I really became excited to be traveling again. After gathering our massive backpacks (with two weeks worth of hiking gear plus food) we made our way out of the small airport. As in many places, some local people wait at the airport and drive travelers into town in various vehicles (in all states of disrepair) to pick up some pocket money. As Bruce, myself and a couple of locals wound our way along the coast into Punta Arenas I had really strong feelings of how much I enjoy this type of travel. We are both really excited to be here. The van dropped us off in the main square. As we tried to manage our packs and figure out the town layout

and where to stay a couple of girls came up and said that their family rented out rooms. At least, that is what we eventually figured out. I immediately regretted never signing up for that quarter of Spanish. We talked it over and decided to give it a try. The house is in a poorer neighborhood right next to the cemetery and the beds don't have any springs left but so far so good. It's typical of many "hostels" and at 4,000 Chilean Pesos per night including breakfast (~8.00) we can't complain. We are sharing a room with two German guys from Passau. Bruce and I just got back from town where we ate goat cheese pizza and had a couple of local beers that were quite good. The pizza has a lot less sauce and the cheese has a fairly strong taste that is unusual but it is quite good. As I write I am sitting in the living room with the two girls and 3 of their friends They are watching a bad American teen high school type movie with Spanish subtitles on a small T.V. I am waiting for the beer to overcome the adrenaline of a new place and exhaustion to overtake me. I am really looking forward to actually being able to lie down to sleep. I shared postcard photos of Seattle with my new friends, which they really enjoyed.

### **2\25 Punta Arenas: cloudy 9:15 AM**

We just finished our first breakfast in Chile. We enjoyed eggs on toast, bread with marmalade and tea. Stephan and Roland, our two German roommates shared stories of their hike in Torres Del Paine in rare perfect weather while Bruce tried to figure out how to call home. I sent a quick email home to let everyone know we had safely arrived. My how the world has changed since my last long trip.

**5:30PM:** We spent the afternoon walking around town seeing the sites. It turned out to be a nice day. Overcast in the morning and clearing off late in the afternoon. It was a lot of fun. Getting oriented in town, trying to order lunch off of a menu in Spanish and finally conveying our desire for chicken sandwiches with tomato, lettuce and onion.

We had considered going south to Ushuaia on Tierra Del Fuego for a couple of days, but decided instead to head up to Puerto Natales tomorrow as it is the jumping off point for our first hike. It's a smaller town and it is more inland and can have completely different weather than we have here. We spoke with a Canadian couple in the post office confirming this. We bought a bus ticket for the 3-hour ride to leave at 9 AM tomorrow. It should be interesting. Bruce has been wanting to call his girlfriend but was a bit daunted by the whole foreign phone calling process. The prospect of Spanish speaking operators was a guaranteed comedy bit. I mentioned that there are sometimes phone bureaus where you give the number to an operator who places the call for you then go into a booth and the phone rings when the call goes through. We happened to come across one just minutes after I told him about them. He made his call with no problems. I am having a great time, I already seem acclimated and fairly comfortable. The time zone change was just 5 hours. Nice when compared to going to Nepal or someplace like that. Living out of a bag always takes a few days to adapt to and I still don't know what things are in what stuff sacks. Just showered and soon we will go on the hunt for white gas (benzino blanco) for our camp stove.

### **2\26 Puerto Natales, Chile: partly cloudy 5:17 PM**

We left our friends Carla and Romena from the last hostel. They were great fun. We caught the bus up here this morning. What use to be a 5 – 6 hour trip on mostly dirt roads has mostly been paved in the past year cutting the trip down to 3 1/2 hours and making it much more comfortable. Most of the drive is through the Pampas; rolling grasslands with wind blasted, stunted trees stretching as far as you can see. Vicunas and Alpaca can be seen grazing along with the numerous sheep. Puerto Natales is a small version of Punta Arenas. We found a hostel on the outskirts of town based on a recommendation from the Canadian couple. It is pretty nice and has a view of the harbor and the Torres massif off in the distance. They will store the gear that we don't take on our hike, which is a bonus. Like most "hostels" down here it is a home with a couple of rooms that are rented out to travelers. Very few people down here speak any English. It certainly makes it more challenging arranging things. The people speak very fast and from what I have heard from other travelers, Chilean Spanish is very unusual. I am learning some words and hope to gain some level of competence. It is a bit taxing, but Bruce and I give it a go and get some laughs out of it all. It is nice having someone to share the burden with.

Today we organized a bus up to Torres Del Paine (the Towers of Pain) National Park. We want to begin the hike right away as the weather is reasonable. We also arranged and purchased our ticket for the 4-day boat up the coast from here to Puerto Montt. The rest of the afternoon was spent unpacking and sorting our gear for the 9-day hike then wandering back to town for dinner and our final beers for a while. I was a bit tired today.

## 2/28 Torres Del Paine National Park: Camp Chileno, overcast and windy 6:50 PM

Our second day in the park. My calves are REALLY sore. Other parts are sore as well (shoulders, feet, lower back) but pale in comparison. We bit off a bit much for our first day compounded by a couple of logistical mistakes made for no easy break-in day!

We caught a bus up here from our hostel and got some nice distant views of the Paine group we are hiking around. The bus dropped us off at Lago Amargo and we proceeded to hike the roughly 5 miles down the road to the Torres Del Paine refugio. It turns out we could have taken a van down the road for about a dollar. We should have. Other than a couple of nice photos, walking gained us nothing of note and with our maxxed out packs left us a bit tired. With the real hiking yet to come. A couple of years sitting behind a computer didn't help! On reaching the refugio we debated setting up camp and doing the hike to the base of the Central Towers as a day hike. Instead we decided to shoulder our bulging packs and continue on up the fairly steep valley to the next camping area. In retrospect, carrying a big pack up there isn't worth it. By the time we arrived we were both gassed. It is up hill most of the way with roughly 2000' elevation gain. We set up camp and ate a quick dinner of one of Bruce's tasty soups at around 4:30. Since we hadn't abused our desk-bound bodies enough we decided to hike the remaining 2 hours and 1000 vertical feet up to the base of the towers for a dusk show. It was a fairly nice evening and in this region of some of the most notorious foul weather on the planet we thought we should take advantage of it. It would be a shame to sleep the night and wake to a storm or the towers shrouded in the famous Patagonian clouds. With our legs screaming their opposition off we went. This time just with daypacks! The last hour of the climb was quite steep rising up from the river over huge boulders and other glacial debris with no real trail. It was fairly miserable! However, cresting the final boulders presented one of the most amazingly beautiful natural amphitheaters I have ever seen. It was incredible and a just payoff for the efforts expended that day. It is a massive granite glacially carved basin dropping precipitously into a small blue-grey lake. On the left are some red and black rock faces. Across the basin on the right are the "central towers of Paine". Huge granite teeth rising vertically 2000+ feet. . Clouds formed and dissipated as the winds blew across the glacier and peaks. It was amazing. Another site that words and pictures can't do justice. We sat, took some photos and just took in the incredible majesty of the area. It almost seems prehistoric. I was expecting a Pterodactyl to soar between the towers and circle the area (note: this web site has a couple of nice photos of the area if you are interested: <http://www.ventistur.com/tpaine.html>). After about an hour we had to head down as it was getting late and we didn't want to hike the rugged terrain in the dark. We got back to the camp about 8:30, washed up and joined some other hikers in the area for some hot chocolate and fun conversation about our various travels before collapsing into our sleeping bags for a solid 8 1/2 hours of sleep.

I am writing this with gloves on as the wind is quite strong and I am sitting outside at our second camp near a river. We have begun the circuit now. After hiking out of the basin we treated ourselves to a hamburger at the lodge at the main entrance then off we went, fueled with a good meal and ibuprofen! It is weird for us Northerners to look at a compass and process that everything is upside down and backwards. The hike today was through gently rolling hills and eventually up a river valley. The hills were rolling enough that the up hills hurt our battered legs and bruised shoulders. It would have been a fairly easy day any other time but we both struggled through the 4+ hours. The next refugio is another 2 – 3 hours up the valley but we were both spent when we arrived at camp Seron. A beautiful site in this broad river valley. Bruce was 20 – 30 minutes ahead of me and I was praying that he had stopped. The terrain here is extremely varied. From the barren almost arctic mountains of last night to the rolling hills reminiscent of parts of Montana or the African savanna that we hiked through today. Later in the trip will be massive glaciers and their terminal lakes. Every place is battered by winds and the tree line is fairly low. The sky has been spectacular. When I entered the river valley late this afternoon I looked up and there were lenticular clouds on and around nearly every mountain. Soon I was buffeted by 35 – 40 MPH headwinds that were relentless. I had to put my head down and turn the energy output way up, both to fight the winds and to speed up. In the northwest this portends bad weather. It felt like a rainstorm could cut loose at any time. Fortunately it didn't and after numerous stream crossings I came to a sign noting the camping area was just 500 meters away. A short par 5, I would be there in no time. I was elated as that last hour into the wind seemed to take forever. Unfortunately, those 500 meters went on and on and on and on! To the point I began to have doubts wondering if I missed it. I thought I had paid attention but I was quite tired as well. I was beginning to get bummed as the thought of walking much more was VERY unpleasant as was retracing my steps. Then I rounded a bend and saw Bruce's bright orange pack (actually pumpkin as I was corrected). AHHHHHHHHHHH..... It is funny, when the end is in sight your remaining energy bleeds away in a hurry. If it turns out to be a false end it is very difficult to restart the engines. We set up camp quickly and made some freeze dried spaghetti. It was very good but we could have easily eaten twice as much. We spent part of

the evening talking to Peter and Mandy from South Africa on a long holiday and watched a beautiful sunset light up the unusual cloud formations.

### **2\29 Lago (Lake) Dickson; Partly Cloudy, 7:12 PM**

Perfect hiking weather. The past couple of days have been more difficult than either of us expected. Partly due to the soreness that we haven't given the time to heal and largely due to the ups and downs of the terrain that don't really show up on our maps. My calves are really sore still and the boot top area on my left boot is bruised and extremely tender. Every step hurts. When I first get up I look like a cripple hobbling along. Fortunately, I loosen up fairly quickly, the ibuprofen kicks in and it all becomes dull background noise as I get into a rhythm. The first part of the hike today was fairly tough with a lot of uphill over different ridges. It was windy as well. Patagonia is known for fierce winds and flexed it's muscle a bit today. We got to the top of one ridge, the final one before dropping back into the river valley, and it was howling. I estimated 50+MPH steady with stronger gusts. Bruce felt it was the best part of 60 MPH. Though standing only 5 feet apart Bruce and I had to yell to communicate. It was moving me around quite a bit - with my pack I am tipping the scales at over 250 pounds. Most of the time it was a headwind but occasionally it would shift quickly 45 degrees and nearly knock you off your feet. Fortunately, we dropped down quickly and got out of the worst of in half an hour.

This site is beautiful. Huge mountains surround us with hanging glaciers creating cascading waterfalls. We are camped next to a lake/river. Up the valley the Dickson glacier is calving icebergs into the lake. It is very quiet and relaxing. I would like a rest day to recover a bit and to just enjoy the incredible surroundings. Despite the sore body, I felt very strong today and kept a good pace. However, twice I was passed by a 30ish small blonde woman who was a very strong hiker. It turns out she is a full time guide and lives in the park. She was born in America of Chilean and Argentine parents. I look forward to talking to her. I'm sure she has some great stories and information on this region.

### **3\1 Campamento Los Peros; Overcast, Breezy 4:18 PM**

It is difficult to comprehend that we left home just one week ago. It seems like much longer than that, in a good way. I suppose it is because we have had so many new experiences. Everything is new and different. There is so much sensory input it is probably the equivalent of 6 months at home. I didn't really finish my entry yesterday as I began talking with Peter from Johannesburg, S. Africa. We talked at length about travel as we have visited many of the same places. We both have great memories of travel in India and Nepal, the Annapurna Circuit, climbing Kilimanjaro, etc. We talked about work and how we got to where we are. Neither of us planned to be what we currently are. He is a computer programmer. Neither of us is really content.

I had a shower, which was great. I didn't bring a towel for weight reasons so I had to dry off with my bandana but it worked out fine. It's nice to be temporarily clean. The guidebooks had said that all the refugio's were "dreary, run down, hanta virus hazards". Apparently in the past couple of years they have upgraded most of them. They are fairly nice, clean with nice wood floors (no shoes allowed) and offer some services. Though expensive (~\$16) you can get a room if you want. We plan to tent the whole way.

I wanted to take a rest and relaxation day and Dickson was such a pristine area I thought it would be ideal. It had a nice casual area in the refugio to hang out, play cards etc. and I really enjoy spending a couple of days getting to know the people, both travelers and locals. In the evening we were talking to an Aussie couple hiking in the opposite direction. They said the next stop was very nice and without any mosquitoes (which were a bit thick along the lake). We decided to move on. It was an easy hike through mostly forested areas. Just before camp we passed by Glaciers Los Peros which drops precipitously down a steep mountain face off a cliff into a small lake, which, not surprisingly is filled with icebergs. It was a spectacular site. The glacier, with it's steep plunge is quite dynamic. In the 30 minutes I was watching and hiking past I witnessed 3 large ice avalanches. It would be great to spend an afternoon watching it calve. Arriving at the campsite was a bit of a letdown and I was a bit irritated about it. The first impression of this site is that it is a bit of a dump. Especially compared to all our previous locations. The site is in the trees but quite barren and there is not a nice refugio for travelers to gather, only a small, rundown hut where the caretaker stays. It is dark and a bit dreary. I washed a few clothes and rinsed myself off with ice-cold river water and felt a bit better. I am still disappointed however. We could have spent another day in a wonderful location recuperating and relaxing. I think I would feel good and strong again with a day's rest. That was the plan for here.

Rest up as the next hike is the long uphill climb over Pass John Garner and the steep descent to Glacier Grey. Now I'm torn. We could both use the rest but don't really want to spend the time here. And there are mosquitoes here. What to do? We would like to finish the circuit and go back to P. Natales on the 7<sup>th</sup> to leave time to see the Moreno glacier in Argentina then catch the boat north on the 9<sup>th</sup>. That leaves just one layover day. The choices really are to rest here or in Refugio Grey which is supposed to be very nice. In addition, we need good weather to get over the pass. I suppose if it is nice we should move on tomorrow, pain and all. Maybe that is why the park is named as it is! I fear we are doing the same as we did on the Annapurna Circuit where in retrospect we all wished we had taken extra time and spent it in some of the many special places. The main problem is that the boat leaves just once per week so you can't just take an extra couple of days very easily. We will just do the best we can.

We just had dinner of some freeze-dried stew and our last remaining roll from P. Natales. We split it and added it to the stew as these 20 ounce packages ("feeds two") aren't really enough for 2 hungry hikers. It was good though. We are camped in the dreary woods but next to us is the Rio Paso. We ate out here on the river and it is quite nice. There is the sound of the river and nice views of some beautiful glaciated peaks. We can also see the long uphill trudge ahead of us. The view from the top should be grand. We will be looking down on Glacier grey, which appears massive on the map. It travels nearly 50 miles from the Patagonian ice cap to terminate in Lago Grey. One of the many positives of this park is that all the uphill trudges give awesome vistas as rewards. I very much enjoy it here. I am sitting by the river and the sun is about to set. We will probably get another awesome sunset. As usual there are banks of very odd clouds that should light up for us. Here is something everyone will want to know: Bruce and I are both constipated. Probably because it is fairly difficult to stay hydrated. We are drinking a couple of quarts per day plus our food but that is not enough. We have been drinking the local water supply, which is pulled from the rivers. So far, no problems. The silt is just roughage I guess!

I was talking to Nancy, the adorable blonde guide, about climbing in the park. Although an amazing climbing area, the peaks don't see a lot of attempts, partly due to the remoteness of the area and also due to the notorious winds and weather which can keep people pinned down for the duration of their trip without ever getting a shot at the objective. She said the winds we ran into yesterday were just "breezes" and that sustained winds over 100 MPH were common. She also told us a story that made all the locals chuckle about a famous climber who came last year to climb the Central Tower of Paine by a new route with his partner. The story old about how they got up on the climb and the partner quit due to the cold and lack of progress. The other climbed on but climbing alone couldn't complete the climb due to slow progress and frostbitten fingers just a day or two from topping out. He came down to the park headquarters furiously cursing his partner and everyone else. A few months later the locals saw an article in one of the climbing magazines where he claimed success on his "first ascent" and was off making money doing slide shows!

### **Lago Grey Partly Cloudy with mild winds; Noon**

I suppose these extended hikes are a bit like childbirth. Most days you deal with the full spectrum of emotion. Elation, pain, wonder, agony, frustration, joy, exhaustion, strength. Many times in the middle of it you wonder why you choose to do this. But you quickly forget the pain and suffering remembering mostly just the great experiences. On this hike every section requiring long, hard grunts has been rewarded with unbelievable experiences or vistas. Today is the hard earned and much needed rest day. We are camped next to Lago Grey and it is wonderful. Most people are either hiking to or from here or on an excursion to the glacier so it is very quiet. Just the sound of the breeze and waves lapping against the many icebergs that are slowly drifting by. We are just a few hundred yards from the terminal end of the massive Glacier Grey so there are hundreds of icebergs floating around in this lake which is maybe 2/3 the size of Lake Washington (and growing as the glacier is receding). It is an odd site.

Yesterday we did the big hike over the pass continuing on to here. Many people take 2 days for this section. I felt pretty good all day. I still have some major sore points but my body is adapting to this hiking routine. I just put the legs into low gear, hike all day mode and went on. Although the climb up the pass wasn't too bad there were some sections during the day that were miserable, frustrating and difficult. Route finding above tree line would have been very difficult in bad weather. A couple half-hour sections were through heavy mud, bog-like areas. Then very dense, tangled trees that you had to weave in and out of and which loved snagging on your pack. Reaching the top of the pass provided a vista where you could swear you were looking into Antarctica. Looking down 2000 feet onto the Grey glacier it occupies the whole valley. In the neighborhood of 50 miles long by 5 to 10 miles wide it descends from the massive Patagonian ice cap (the third largest in the world). It is flanked by numerous large, rugged

mountains dropping large feeder glaciers into it. The glacier is extremely broken with pressure ridges and some of the most brilliant shades of blue I have ever seen. It's almost like it is plugged in and glowing. Quite spectacular really.

They have very basic showers here which was "nice" after a long, sweaty hike of 9+ hours. Unfortunately, the water is pulled directly from the ice-cube filled lake so it is a bit brisk!

Like most circuit hikes you meet up with the same people on and off along the way. It is one of my favorite parts. There is a definite sense of camaraderie. The shared experience, the struggles, the amazing highlights all make for great campfire tales. Many of the people you meet in a place like this are the more adventurous type as well and have done some traveling or have a keen interest in it. Sharing tales with them is wonderful as well. Last night Bruce crashed early and I sat in the refugio until after 11 talking to Peter and Mandy, a couple from Australia, a French woman and a college girl from the Boston area. After drinking 2 large glasses of a wonderful peach type juice to satisfy my somewhat dehydrated body we spoke of our travel experiences for hours. A couple of the Chileans that run the site were playing guitar and singing. They were very good. They also came around and gave everyone a glass of hot spiced wine. It was great.

### **3\4\00 Saturday; Refugio Pehoe 3:50 PM**

Left Glacier Grey this morning. It was fairly cold. I kept waking up cold. I have a 35 degree compromise bag and it is barely sufficient for down here. The hike here was moderate but this is only half as far as we planned to come. It took us 3 hours. 2 hours into it our luck with the weather ran out. It got quite windy and rained/hailed quite hard. We jumped into our raingear but were fairly wet by the time we got it on. We hiked here with the storm at our back. We stopped at the refugio to eat and debated what to do. Finally deciding to stay here and if the weather clears take a day trip up French Valley. If it stays nice we have decided to catch a boat down through the rivers and lakes back to Puerto Natales. It is \$80 U.S. which is a bit expensive for down here but it looks spectacular and beats taking the bus back the way we came.

Yesterday was a rest day just hanging out by the lake reading, writing postcards, washing some clothes etc. A relaxation day was certainly earned and our camp location is awesome. I took a very short day hike out on the rocky peninsula to watch the glacier. I found a nook in the rocks out of the wind and just sat back and relaxed. The view was amazing. The lake, icebergs, the glacier, jagged mountains in the distance and just off to my right peaks that would do Yosemite proud. Although I was probably 500 yards from the glacier it seems like you are right beneath it as the face juts 200 feet out of the water. Every so often you hear a loud crack and watch as a piece of ice the size of a small office tower crashes into the water.

There are a number of people in the refugio seeking refuge from the storm. When you spread them out in the park and along the 100 mile circuit for the most part we have felt that we have the park to ourselves. Rarely running across anyone while hiking yet meeting interesting people in the evenings at the camp areas. It has been a great hike. I haven't been getting enough sleep due to being barely warm enough and there have been times when I have been thinking: "damn, this is a pain in the ass, I am going home and traveling by Winnebago." In fairness, this has mostly been while dragging my sore body and large pack up some seemingly endless hill after a pathetic meal of paste-like oatmeal (I hate oatmeal). It also takes a week or two to get used to life on the road on these long trips. So far the trip is off to a great start, this region is amazing.

### **3\6\00 Puerto Natales Broken Clouds 10:20 PM**

Back at Carlita's guest house. Just finished packing to leave tomorrow for Argentine Patagonia and the Moreno Glacier in Los Glaciers National Park. Bruce is still packing.

Yesterday we took a day hike from Refugio Pehoe up into the French Valley. It was nice but even with just daypacks we were both very tired and it was a bit of a struggle. It was nice in the morning but rained a bit on the hike out. We saw some amazing ice avalanches on the way in on a huge, glaciated mountain just across the narrow

valley from us. We probably saw a dozen. 3 or 4 were quite large. The volume of snow and ice is incredible. It creates a "waterfall" of ice that cascades down the face for close to 5 minutes. It reminded me of my lunch stop on the Khumbu glacier watching the avalanches scour the face of Nuptse in the Everest basin. We ran into Peter and Mandy on the hike out and got back to the refugio around 4:30 then caught the 6:30 boat across Lake Pehoe and a van back to the park administration buildings. I had very mixed emotions about finishing the hike. It was a bit strange as I had it in my mind that we would be hiking at least one and possibly 2 more days. We were in the park 8 days, 7 actually hiking covering in the neighborhood of 100 miles. It was tough physically. The only way to get in shape for hiking is by hiking and the Boeing job doesn't allow enough of that! I have a couple of minor blisters, a bruised ankle from the top of my boot and tired legs. But, it was amazing. The boat ride signaled the end of the hiking. We had some great views of the Cuernos of Paine (horns of pain) from the lake. I was frequently blown away by the views. A couple of times the grandeur brought tears to my eyes. It is strange to look at a place of such beauty and realize that you will most likely never see it again in person. I feel very fortunate to have seen as much as I have. I wish I could share it with everyone.

As we planned to catch a boat this morning taking us down the Rio Serrano back to Puerto Natales we had to find a place to stay where we could make the connections in the morning. Difficult in Spanish! But, we worked it out and my hunch to head to the Administration Building was right. We were able to book the trip there and sleep in a small, run down refugio on the grounds. It had about 20 mattresses on the floor in the attic. We ran into Michelle from Melbourne whom we had met previously in Refugio Grey as well as an older New Zealander who has lived in Brazil for the past 20 years. We talked with them for a couple of hours while making and eating one of Bruce's soup mixtures. They have been quite good. We had to get up at 6:30 AM to catch a van to the put in for our Zodiac boat trip. The boat trip down the river was spectacular and provided great views of the Paine mountains. It was the perfect close to a great hiking adventure. It was just Bruce, Michelle and I along with a couple of local guides driving the boat. The first three hours were in the Zodiac cruising down the winding river through the park. We had a lunch stop at a small estancia along the river and eventually were dropped off on a dock next to a small lake with the Serrano glacier dropping into it. Basically the middle of nowhere we were left on our own told that a boat would be along to pick us up for the remainder of the trip. After about an hour an old passenger ship ~60 feet long arrived. It took another 3 hours cruising through some amazing scenery to get back to P. Natales. We saw seals, albatross, eagles, a whale and other marine life. Bruce and I spent most of the trip up on the upper deck. On the open part of the bay we got blasted occasionally with fierce winds which we could watch as they raced across the water stirring up whitecaps. It was good fun.



**Doug and Bruce with the Towers of Paine behind them**

## Conservation Chatter

By Victor Yagi

### Remembering David Brower

Those of us who enjoy the wilderness must take a moment to mourn the loss of a true champion of conservation and a pioneer of the modern environmental movement. David Brower, who died on Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, may not be as well known as likes of John Muir, Aldo Leopold, or Henry David Thoreau, but his environmental legacy will not be forgotten. David Brower was the first executive director of the Sierra Club. He held that position from 1952 to 1969. He was instrumental in stopping plans for two hydroelectric dams in the Grand Canyon. He also led Sierra Club efforts to create **North Cascades**, Kings Canyon, and Redwoods National Parks, to pass the Wilderness Act, halt dam construction in Dinosaur National Monument, and create Point Reyes and Cape Cod National Seashores. We have all these because he took a stand to conserve our natural heritage. Next time you camp in Boston Basin or climb a peak in the North Cascades tip your helmet to the memory of David Brower.

### Your Voice DOES Matter

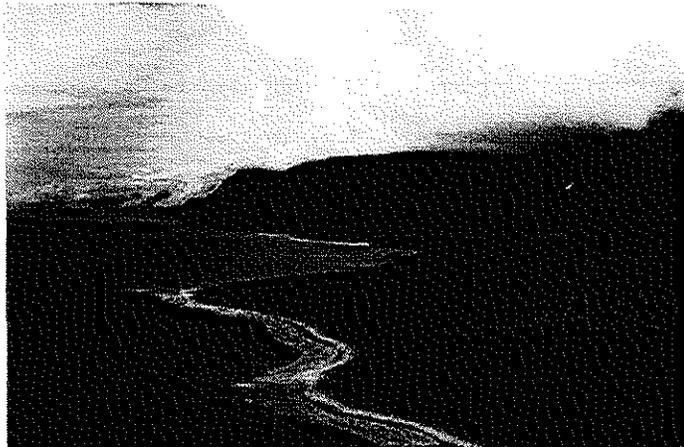
If nothing else, the past month has taught us that individual's voices do matter. The presidential race in Florida hangs in the balance of 300 votes, Maria Cantwell is locked in a close race with Slade Gorton for the Senate. Whichever side of the issues you stand, your voice does matter in shaping the future of local and federal policies.

### Forest Service Roadless Policy

Forest Service announced its recommendation for protecting roadless areas in the national forests. Stand up, clap, and give yourself a big pat on the back if you filled out a comment card to the Forest Service on the roadless policy. The Forest Service announced its recommendation to protect 58.5 million acres of national forest, including 9.8 million in the Tongass National Forest, from road building and most logging.

The original proposals put forth by the Forest Service for public comment did not include the Tongass NF or ban logging in the roadless areas. However, over the past year, comments made at 600 public hearings and over 1.6 million written comments convinced the Forest Service that the public values wilderness and they want to stop subsidizing logging. Boalpers collected more than 200 of the over 18,000 signatures collected in Washington.

Over the next 30 days, the Agriculture Secretary will decide whether to make any more changes before announcing the final plan. Although the Tongass NF will not be protected for four years, and only roadless areas greater than 5000 acres are protected, this is a huge step forward to protecting what little wilderness remains. Science, economics, and the public interest weigh against private interests and some in congress have stated their intention to try to have this policy overturned. Stay alert and take a stand.



Lynn Canal, Northern Tongass National Forest

**2001 BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

(Read and complete the waiver on the reverse side of this form. This is required for membership.)

Please print: Name (First, MI, Last)

Social Security Number

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Mail Stop

( )  
Work Phone

( )  
Home Phone

e-mail

Age

**Check one membership type.**

New Member: \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

EMPLOYEE MEMBERSHIP (check one)

Boeing employees or contractors and their dependents.

\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL (\$15.00)

\_\_\_ FAMILY (\$20.00)

\_\_\_ RETIRED (\$5.00)

NON-EMPLOYEE MEMBERSHIP (check one)

Renewing members of BOEALPS or sponsored applicants; sponsored applicants must obtain approval of the BOEALPS board and Boeing Recreation.

\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL FRIEND OF BOEALPS (\$20.00)

\_\_\_ FAMILY FRIEND OF BOEALPS (\$25.00)

**Club membership is only for those who sign up as an individual member, or are listed on the back of this form as dependents.**

Send application, signed waiver, and dues to:  
**(Make checks payable to BOEALPS)**

Prash Bhat M/C 04-JJ  
or: 23227 97<sup>th</sup> Ave. W  
Edmonds, WA 98020

Additional information for membership database - optional but appreciated!

Year joined BOEALPS \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the year for any courses completed:

\_\_\_ BOEALPS Basic (team color: \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_ BOEALPS Intermediate

\_\_\_ Mountaineers Basic

\_\_\_ Avalanche Awareness

\_\_\_ Aid Climbing Seminar

\_\_\_ Standard First Aid/CPR

\_\_\_ Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Mountaineers Scramble

\_\_\_ Mountaineers Intermediate

\_\_\_ Ice Climbing Seminar

\_\_\_ Rock Leading Seminar

\_\_\_ MOFA

How often do you climb? \_\_\_\_\_

**GET INVOLVED:** Are you interested in organizing or leading an activity or outing?

Ice Climbing     Snow Climbing     Rock Climbing     Alpine Climbing

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name(s)), certify that I am aware of all the inherent dangers of mountaineering, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in mountainous terrain, accidents, or illness in remote places without medical facilities, the forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons.

I understand that it is not the function of the activity leaders to serve as the guardians of my safety. I also understand that I am to furnish my own personal equipment and I am responsible for its safety and good operating condition regardless of where I obtained it. I understand and agree that neither the Boeing Employees Alpine Society (BOEALPS) nor its officers, agents, operators, instructors, leaders of club sponsored activities, other assistants and the Boeing Company may be held liable in any way for any occurrence in connection with club activities which may result in injury, death, or other damages to me. In consideration of being allowed to participate in club activities, I **HEREBY PERSONALLY ASSUME ALL RISKS** in connection with said activities, and I **RELEASE** the aforementioned club, officers, agents, operators, instructors, activity leaders and assistants from responsibility for any harm which may befall me while I am engaged in club activities, including all connected risks, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable. I **FURTHER AGREE TO INDEMNIFY** the aforementioned entities and Company and persons from any liability, claims, and causes of action which I may have arising out of my enrollment and participation in this club.

I further state that I am 18 years of age or older and legally competent to sign this release (or in the event that I am a minor, my parent or legal guardian must sign this release), that I understand these terms are contractual and not a mere recital, and that I have signed this document as my own free act. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assignees, personal representatives, and for all members of my family, including any minors.

**I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND INDEMNITY BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Date)

Additional Family:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name) (Signature) (Date)

## **Non-Boeing Employee Membership**

*Note: This does not apply to non-Boeing employees who are members under a Family membership of a current Boeing Employee.*

In recent years Boeing has placed additional rules on non-Boeing employee membership in clubs including BOEALPS. Some non-Boeing employees must be "sponsored" to become members or renew a membership in BOEALPS while others are not (due to grandfather rules). Sponsoring entails the BOEALPS Board providing information to Boeing recreation regarding how a non-Boeing employee benefits the club. While no sponsorship candidate has been turned down to date, it is preferable to keep the members in the non-sponsor category to reduce paperwork and the risk of justifying the worthiness of a non-Boeing employee member. The rules governing whether a non-Boeing employee member must be sponsored or not are as follows:

- Members who were Boeing employees when they joined BOEALPS but, are no longer Boeing employees, may renew their membership without sponsorship.\*
- Members who were not Boeing employees when they joined BOEALPS may renew their membership without sponsorship if they joined prior to September, 1995.\*
- Members who were not Boeing employees when they joined BOEALPS and joined after September, 1995 may renew their membership but they must be sponsored.\*\*

### Notes:

\* Continuous membership from year-to-year with no breaks is required. If breaks occur, the member must be sponsored on subsequent applications. (Note: This has not been a strict policy in the past, but it will begin to be in the future.)

\*\* At this time, sponsorship is handled by the BOEALPS Board. No additional paperwork is required from the member signing up.

### Questions?

Contact: Prash Bhat  
Membership Chair  
425-266-7531 (w)  
prashantha.b.bhat@boeing.com

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## **New Cascades and Olympics Climbing Web Site**

A new web site appeared a few weeks ago that focuses specifically on climbing in Washington State. It serves as a platform for Jeff Smoot to publicize his guidebooks (he has a new one coming out early next year that will feature 100 "easy" alpine climbs in Washington), but it has tons of other useful information on it as well. Check it out at <http://www.climbingwashington.com/>

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MAIL STOP: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PRASH BHAT, M/S 04-JJ  
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ALPINE ECHO



***December ECHO staff***

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*What did you climb this summer? Write it up and send it to me! If you have any submissions - anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do - email them to me at matt.robertson@boeing.com, or drop them in inplant mail to 7M-HC. If neither of these choices will work, give me a call at (425)957-5691, and we'll arrange something!*