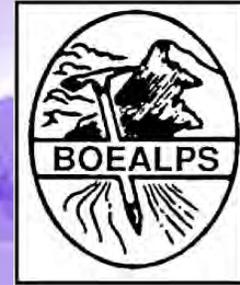


# ALPINE ECHO

January



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**Membership** Open

**Education** Open

## BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers !

Happy New Year. We have the distinguished global adventurer Helen Thayer presenting at the January General Meeting. Helen Thayer has done many demanding trips including a solo visit to the North Pole and treks across the Sahara and Gobi deserts. Be sure to catch her presentation Jan. 4.

We had a good turnout and quite a few great photos for the Dec. Photo Contest. Check out the winners in this issue.

The Winter Outing series is continuing in January and February.

The Winthrop Ski Trip is coming up in mid-January. There are still a few open spaces remaining.

We have one trip report from Eric Fellanger on a trip to Red Rocks, Nev.

MOFA is starting this month. Those who would like to instruct the Basic Climbing Class or the Intermediate Climbing Class are required to have MOFA certification.

Keep in mind that the spring climbing season will soon be upon us. The orientation meeting for the Basic Climbing Class is the last day of February.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
Rich

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....p. 4

### BOEALPS EVENTS

January General Meeting.....p. 6

Winter Outing Series.....p. 7

MOFA Class.....p. 7

Winthrop X-Country Ski Trip.....p. 8

Photo Contest Winners.....p. 9

SOCIETY NEWS.....p. 22

### REPORTS

Red Rock.....p. 23

BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....p. 39

BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....p. 42

# January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 <b>NEW YEAR</b>	2	3	4 Gen. Meeting Helen Thayer	5	6
7 Winter Outing 3	8	9 Board Meeting	10	11	12 ← Winthrop Ski Trip	13
14 →	15	16	17 MOFA 1	18	19	20
21 Winter Outing 4	22 MOFA 2 Echo Deadline	23	24 MOFA 3	25	26	27
28	29 MOFA 4	30	31 MOFA 5			<b>2007</b>

# February

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				<b>1</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Winter Outing 5	<b>5</b> MOFA 6	<b>6</b> Board Meeting	<b>7</b> MOFA 7	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> MOFA 8	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Winter Outing 6	<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> BCC Orientation			

**2007**

# EVENTS

## JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

We are very privileged to have Helen Thayer describing her expeditions to the Polar regions.

**When:** Thursday, Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM

**Where:** 2-22 building meeting room.

Some of Helen's notable accomplishments:

1988...The first woman to solo any of the world's Poles when she walked alone to the magnetic North Pole, pulling her own sled, unresupplied without the help of dog teams or snowmobiles. Helen was 50 years old. She wrote a best selling book, Polar Dream, about her journey. Helen was also first person to circumnavigate the magnetic North Pole area.

1990...American leader of the first Russian-USA women's Arctic expedition to Siberia and Soviet Polar Islands

1992.. Helen and Bill Thayer were the first married couple to walk to any of the world's Poles. They traveled on foot, pulling their own sleds without any resupply to the magnetic North Pole. Bill was the oldest person at 65 to walk to the Pole pulling his own sled without resupply.

1994...Helen and Bill spent one year with Charlie, their canine companion of magnetic North Pole fame, in the Canadian Yukon and in the Northwest Territories studying and photographing three families of wild wolves at their den site, hunting range and on the sea ice. The remarkable story is documented in Helen's book Three Among the Wolves.

1995...Walked 1,500 miles through Death Valley, Mojave and the American and Mexican Sonoran Deserts in a study of high and low altitude deserts.

1996... First woman to walk across the Sahara Desert following an ancient camel trade route of 2,400 miles.

1997...Helen walked alone for 450 miles in Antarctica, pulling her own 260 pound sled, unresupplied. During the expedition she celebrated her 60th birthday alone on the polar ice cap with a frozen cup cake and one candle. She had no radio or voice contact with the outside world. She was the only living being in the area she traveled. She said, "It was like living on the moon."

1998...With her husband Bill, Helen trekked with the largest caribou herd in the world of half a million animals, as they followed their centuries old tradition of migrating from their wintering grounds in southern Alaska to the North Slope calving grounds. The Thayer's walked 600 miles, documenting the entire migration for educational-scientific programs. They walked with the herd across the tundra plains, across the wind swept Brooks Range to the North Slope of Alaska.

1999... Walked 1,200 miles throughout New Zealand studying the Maori culture.

2000...First non-Indians to kayak 1,200 miles along two rivers in a remote area of the Amazon rain forest. They lived with indigenous Indians and explored an area seldom seen by outsiders. It was a study of a rain forest's original inhabitants.

2000...Trekking 400 miles from the northern Canadian Yukon Territories to the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve in Alaska to document the annual migration of 240,000 caribou of the Porcupine herd from their wintering grounds to their summer calving grounds and to document the Gwich'in indigenous people's dependence on the herd for sustenance

2001...Trekking on foot across the entire length of the Mongolian Gobi Desert west to east Helen, 63 with Bill 74, trekked almost 1,500 miles. They suffered through 126 degree heat, sand storms, life threatening thirst and scorpions as they walked the longest route across the desert, west to east, on a journey of discovery to share the nomadic lifestyle of desert nomads who have lived in the Gobi for hundreds of years and still follow the lifestyle of their ancestors.

**Accounts of her Polar expedition are given in her National Best Seller Book entitled Polar Dream. She will have some of her books on hand for anyone who is interested in purchasing one.**

## WINTER OUTING SERIES

Come join us for a Winter Climb.

**Skills Required:** Basic Class or equivalent

**Physical Difficulty:** typically 3-4,000 ft. elevation gain plus cross-country travel on snowshoes

**Gear Required:** snowshoes, shovel, avalanche beacon, ice axe, ski poles

**Where:** it depends, but somewhere higher than home and within a 2 hr. drive

**When:** 1/7, 1/21, 2/4, and 2/18

We handle all arrangements via the web. Jump on the distribution list by dropping a note containing your preferred email address to Mike Bingle [mbingle@comcast.net](mailto:mbingle@comcast.net). The week before the trip an announcement comes out with details on destination, where to meet, and all that good stuff. Signups are on line via a Yahoo Group poll. Several avalanche beacons are available through the club, don't let lack of your own beacon keep you at home!

## MOUNTAIN ORIENTED FIRST AID (MOFA) CLASS

MOFA prepares you to deal effectively with accidents that occur in remote areas where professional medical help is not readily available. The course combines classroom lecture with hands-on practice scenarios held outdoors.

This will be the full class requiring no prior certification. Graduates receive an American Red Cross Standard First Aid card and a Mountaineers MOFA card, both good for three years. You must attend all class sessions to graduate.

**Lead Instructor:** Dan Goering

**Dates:** Mon & Wed from Jan 17 through Feb 12 (8 nights)

**Time:** 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

**Location:** Seattle Greenlake area

**Approx. Cost:** \$55

To sign up, email your name and contact phone to [boealps\\_mofa@yahoo.com](mailto:boealps_mofa@yahoo.com)

## Winthrop X-Country Ski Trip

**Skills Required:** Can move about on snow or ice, "hot-tubing" skills nice to have

**Physical Difficulty:** As much or as little as you want

**Gear Required:** Snowshoes, x-country skis, backcountry skis, or alpine skis

**Where:** Westar Lodge in Winthrop

**When:** Jan 12-15

Some specifics: BOEALPS has a gem in Winthrop: the Westar Lodge, located off the W. Chewuch Road. Come out for some incredible skiing on one of the best trail systems in the U. S.

The cost will be roughly \$75 per adult, which covers Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights' lodging, Saturday breakfast/dinner, Sunday breakfast/dinner and Monday breakfast. Bring your own Saturday/Sunday lunch and beverages.

Friends and families are all welcome.

The lodge has 7 double beds + 16 single beds to sleep 30, and there may be room on the basement floor in case of overflow. Reserve early, beds will be assigned in order of payment. A short waiting list will be made. There is no guarantee of refunds, though we'll do our best. Yes, there is a hot tub.

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. 2006-2007 trail fees are \$18/day and \$42/3 days. For more info on the Methow Valley ski routes and rates, see: <http://mvsta.com>.

There are also opportunities for free back country skiing.

There are still some spaces left, sign up today!

To reserve your trip, make your check payable to Boealps and mail it to:  
Signe Franzen, 2742 46<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98116.  
For questions, contact Signe at [signe\\_greg@hotmail.com](mailto:signe_greg@hotmail.com) or  
Patty at [perkily@hotmail.com](mailto:perkily@hotmail.com) or 206-369-2632

## 2006 BOEALPS Photo Contest Winners

### Mountain Scene



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jonathon Paul



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Shella Bukovac



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Eric Fjellanger

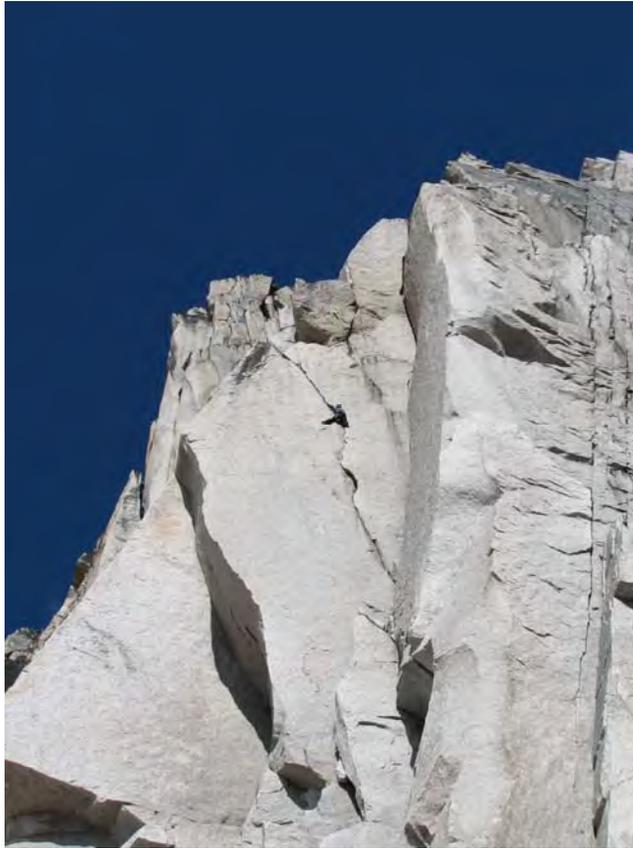
## Climbing



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bob Bautista



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Terry Hill



3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Eric Fjellanger

**BOEALPS Class**



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Chris Erickson



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Eric Fjellanger



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Eric Fjellanger

**People**



1<sup>st</sup> Place - Eric Fjellanger



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Bob Bautista



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Steve Behrend

**Sunrise/Sunset**



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bob Bautista



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Mandy Paul



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Jonathon Paul

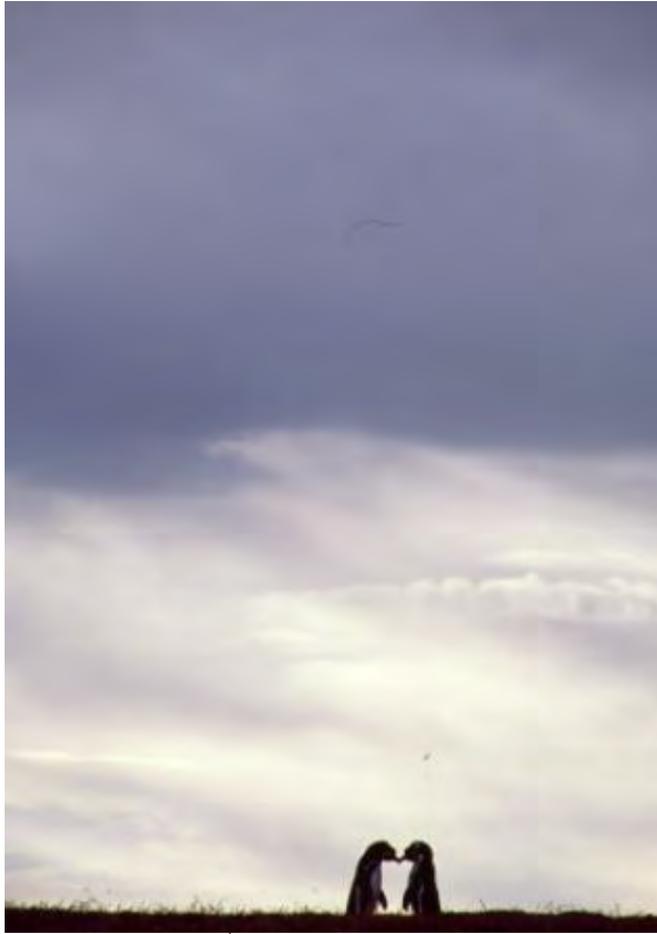
Nature/Wilderness



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Mandy Paul



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Steve Behrend



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Bob Bautista

**Humorous**

(Photo Not Available)  
1<sup>st</sup> Place – Chris Erickson



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Bob Bautista



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Mandy Paul

## ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC

...

The BOEALPS Constitution and By-Laws were updated during the 2005-2006 Board Tenure, and those updates were ratified by the membership at the Annual Banquet on 3 November 2006. These current Constitution and By-Laws are available on the web site home page at boealps.org

...

The Basic Rock Climbing Class (BRC) has a new Chief Instructor: Mike Zalewski's submittal for the position was reviewed by the Board at the 14 November meeting, and he was voted in. Mike, who is also our Photography Chair, will take the reins of the class from BRC founders Sarah Sternau and Robert Fisher starting Summer 2007. Congratulations Mike, and good luck !

...

And speaking of nominations, please note that the Society is very glad to receive help from some brave members who have stepped forward to volunteer their time and energy to drive the ambitious 2007 Boealps agenda:

- Bernie Knoll as Activities Chair: Bernie will coordinate and schedule all upcoming club activities and is in charge of the activities calendar for the coming year, so if you want to help organize an outing, a climb, an event, a seminar, he is the first person to contact.

- Robyn Garrison as Class Liaison: Robyn will coordinate, promote and organize the main classes start-off events, as well as oversee the students application process and maintain open channels between the Board and Chief Instructors.

BY THE WAY, CRUCIAL CHAIR POSITIONS ARE STILL OPEN (MEMBERSHIP, EDUCATION) AND BOEALPS IS HAPPY TO WELCOME ANY MEMBER WILLING TO VOLUNTEER SOME TIME TO HELP RUN THE ORGANIZATION. SO DON'T BE SHY !!!

If you don't care much for the high profile positions, don't worry, BOEALPS also needs volunteers to possibly help out with many tasks ranging from graphic designers, web designers, echo editors and reporters, archivers, event organizers and helpers, etc, etc, so just contact any of the Board members or Chairs, and step forward to help out just one single time or throughout the whole year: remember that every single activity promoted by the Society happens because of members who volunteer to help out. This year, why not get involved at a higher level and help make BOEALPS what YOU want it to be ?

...

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still on-going. Master-minded by Tony Olejnicki, who is unfortunately leaving our part of the world this month, the Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

And finally, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9 January 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcome to attend.

...

## Trip Reports

Red Rocks, Nevada, November 19-24, 2006

Ambrose Bittner, Bob Bautista, Eric Fjellanger (scribe), Mike Zalewski

It started like this:

From: Bob Bautista  
To: Eric Fjellanger

dude...  
you still in arizona?

hey - mike, ambrose and i got tickets to vegas (red rocks) for thanksgiving week (nov 19 - 24th).... we could use another cuz it sounds like ryan is being a wiener. GO!

bob

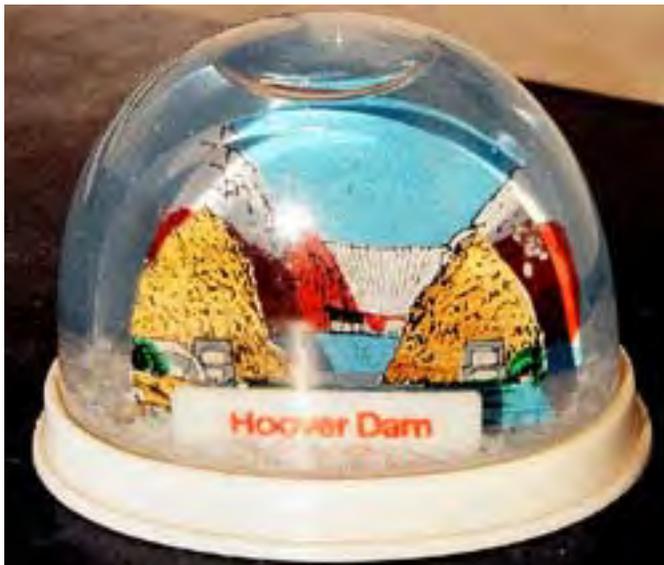
...

From: Eric Fjellanger  
To: Bob Bautista

dude, that is a cool idea... i am on my way up to red rocks on wednesday. i'll let you know what i learn about the place. i start my job on the sixth. i'll think about your suggestion.

eric

And ended like this:



Here's what happened in between.

### Day 0: Seattle, The Airport, The Other Airport, Vegas

Near the end of October I took a trip with my lovely girlfriend, Larissa, to Arizona, to see Her Family. Knowing several days of family time would necessitate a few days of fun time we drove north to Vegas, where the sandstone cliffs of

Red Rocks beckoned. For three days we stayed in the grungiest hotel on the strip, climbing by day and dining like royalty by night. We climbed a good number of routes, including the very fun "Frogland", six pitches up to 5.8, to the top of Whiskey Peak. After my return to Seattle, and armed with the beta I had gathered, I was prime for recruitment into a return trip.

So somehow, despite being two weeks into a new job and with no vacation time accrued, I was talked into accompanying three fellow Boealpers on a trip to sunny Red Rocks, just outside of Las Vegas, Nevada. Over Thanksgiving. Leaving the family holiday (sorry family!) and girlfriend (sorry Larissa!) behind, I sought out the sun and the sandstone.

We flew out Sunday night. We were to meet at Ambrose's house, so Mike picked up Bob and me. On the way over Bob warned me about what was the most important thing about Ambrose's house. "Ambrose doesn't have a cat, he has a lion. It's huge." It was true. The cat intimidated us while Ambrose went to the post office.

Soon Len picked us up and took us to the airport (thanks Len!). We needed to negotiate for a pickup on our return. There was the ever-touchy moment when we revealed the hour of our arrival. "So when are you getting back?" Len asked.

Through a quick cycle of glances we elected Ambrose to be our chairman. "Uh I think it's one o'clock in the morning. Friday."

"One o'clock?" asked Len.

"...Yes."

Nobody breathed.

"Oh that'll be fine." Whew! Our safe return was ensured.

In the airport, we regrouped somewhere downstream of security. "For this trip we all need nicknames" I asserted. Seeing that my companions were open to the idea, I continued, "I'll start it off. I think Ambrose is clearly 'Old School'," (this really has nothing to do with his relationship to the rest of us chronologically, and much more to do with the rack of ancient u-stem camalots and badly manked-up stoppers we wouldn't allow him to bring, and the corduroy blazer he was wearing). There was no dissent, so, one nickname down, three to go.

A few hours later found us touching down in the beautiful Las Vegas airport. After a surprisingly long conversation with a rental car lady who thought we should really upgrade to some car we had never heard of before, we were turned lose in Sin City. Our first debaucherous undertaking was: to find the hotel and go to bed.



*We suspect the cat didn't mind Ambrose's absence over the holiday*

#### Day 1: Moderate Mecca and Calico Basin

The alarm went off at the very pleasant hour of seven thirty. We hit the Original Pancake House (whose originality I can neither confirm nor deny) and over too much bacon we discussed our options. I suggested our first day be spent near a "new" climbing area known as "Moderate Mecca". Because it sounded right up our alley, if you catch my drift... and because I had been there before. We went and had a good time pulling down on what was, thanks to the prevalent weather in the Pacific Northwest, the first genuine outdoor rock any of us had touched in a couple of months.

Mike set out to warm up on an easy-looking 5.6. Trying to get his trad lead and sandstone legs back at the same time was enough to slow Mike down a little bit, and we took the opportunity to shout beta up to him. "MOVE YOUR LEFT LEG UP INTO THE CRACK" "THERE'S A MONO POCKET UP THERE FOR YOUR LEFT RING FINGER" "STAND UP ON IT" "ROTATE THE LEFT SIDE TOPWISE".

"SHUT UP GUYS" Mike shouted back as he reached down to clip the rope. But... our distraction was too much for him, and he had performed the dreaded...

"Z-CLIP!!!" we all yelled.

"DANGIT!" shouted Mike in anguish as he realized that we had just found his Las Vegas nickname.



*Ambrose works "Is It Soup Yet?" while Eric Belays and Bob looks on*

Several more routes and several more hours in the sun later, we left Moderate Mecca to scope out Calico Basin just around the corner. Mike and Bob headed up "Physical Graffiti" on Riding Hood Wall while Ambrose and I tried a couple routes at Dickie's Cliff. Satisfied and drained we met back at the car in the dark, and headed to BJ's Brewpub. There we found the beer and food to be as excellent as the name was giggle-inducing. We quaffed brews and schemed about our next day. Something medium-sized and a little challenging, we thought. Our conclusion was...

## **Day 2: Dark Shadows**

The alarm went off at the almost reasonable hour of six thirty, and we headed out to Pine Creek Canyon.



*On the trail to Mescalito Buttress and "Dark Shadows"*

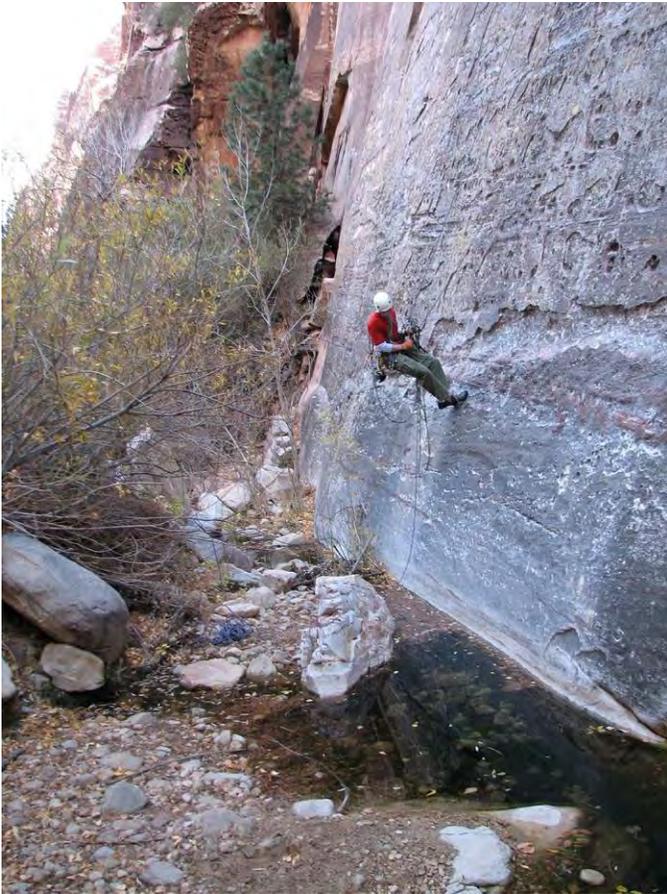
Our objective was "Dark Shadows", four pitches of five-star 5.8 climbing. Pine Creek canyon supports a thick green pine forest, which scientists say is a remnant from the last ice age. I say it's fascinating that you can walk out of the arid desert full of cacti and into this damp, cool riverbed covered in trees. The creek leads to Mescalito Buttress, and Dark Shadows follows a varnished dihedral upward from a pool of water. Better yet, there were girls there. "My friend has never seen rock climbers before... do you mind if we watch you?" We all made it clear that we didn't mind, and in return got this photo of our fearless selves.



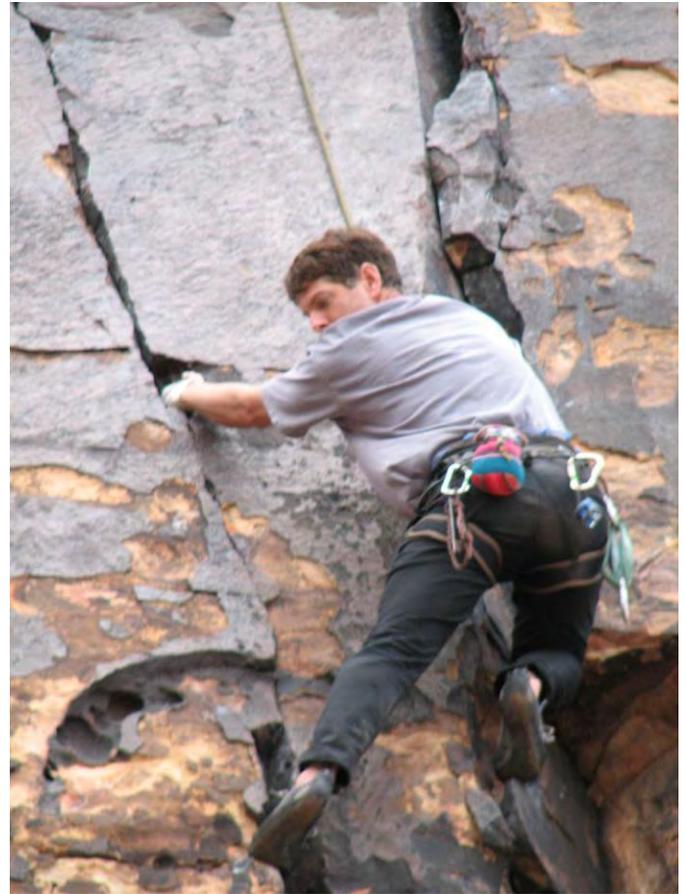
*It's easy to look brave at the bottom of the route*

It was an exciting run-out to the first bolt and a quick game of rock, paper, scissors saw Mike styling it with ease. He strung the first two pitches together, continuing in impressive fashion up a formidable-looking corner crack. Soon Ambrose joined him at the belay, and Bob was leading up behind them. Before long I was following the first pitch. Easy face climbing led to an easier ramp, followed by a far less easy dihedral, which was finished by a slightly awkward mantle move and some easy side-stepping. Three of us joined at the belay station to watch Old School cruising the corner above. He couldn't contain his enthusiasm and yelled down "Guys, this is awesome! Steep but jugs everywhere!" As it turned out this was exactly true all the way through the hardest-rated (5.8+) third pitch. We all thought the fourth pitch (5.7- according to the book) was much trickier. Bob even had to call upon the rarely-employed technique of calf-jamming.

On the rappel we faced a dilemma: there was a pool of water at the base of the route. We could simply throw our ropes but then they'd get wet. The solution was obviously to fix the rope length, and to rappel with a rope coiled over our shoulders, paying it out as we went. Brilliant! I went first and everything went smoothly until, naturally, about fifteen feet off the ground. Here I had to untangle the fifty or so feet of rope that had wound its way around my neck, and hop about ten feet away from the wall to clear the pool. I managed it and then watched Mike perform the same death-defying acrobatics. With the scene set, Bob and Ambrose followed without event. Then, about to pull the ropes, Mike and I paused. "These... these are going to get wet, aren't they?" Neither of us could see any way around it. Gravity: it thwarts you.



*Don't let terminology fool you; "dry" ropes can still get wet*



*Ambrose gets down and dirty on "Topless Twins"*

With our main objective complete, we needed to waste the remaining hours of daylight, so we sought out a four-star 5.9 on Brass Wall called "Topless Twins". I led it first and found it to be as much fun as the name would suggest, so I insisted everyone else take a shot at it. As Ambrose touched down it began to get dark so we headed out. On the way back to the car we caught a glimpse of some of the area's elusive bighorn sheep. Satisfied with what the day had brought us, we returned to BJ's for more happy hour beer and half-price mini pizzas.

In the car on the way back to the hotel, searching for something decent on the radio, Madonna flashed by on the radio. "Wait stop here!" exclaimed Bob.

"Dude, Madonna? Seriously?"

"Madonna rules!"

"Whatever you say, *Vogue*." With nicknames 75% accounted for, I cringed, fearing whatever cruel moniker fate had yet to hand me.

At some point later we became dissatisfied with what the day had brought us and decided to see what Vegas nightlife was all about. On a Tuesday evening. So we somehow got into Coyote Ugly for free. But we found there an atmosphere we could easily replicate back at home by taking a trip to Kent. So we went to Studio 54 in the MGM Grand. It was... basically the same as any faux-trendy nightclub. Well, okay, I guess not all of them have girls dancing on trapezes. Or half-naked dudes with nipple-rings dancing on pedestals. Or \$9 well drinks. Some of us danced. Some of us talked to some girls. Some of us drank a lot. Some of us got to bed around 4 am. 'Nuff said, I think.

### Day 3: Hoover Dam

There was no alarm today but we rolled out of bed... late. Ambrose had gotten up early to take care of some issues with clients of his business. Bob, Mike and I collected ourselves over greasy hashbrowns and fried eggs. Then we

hopped in the car and into a traffic jam. Several hours and one terrorist checkpoint later we arrived in the parking lot at the Hoover Dam. The dam tour was impressive and the gift shop was second-to-none. We checked out various gifts.



*All we could say was "DAM."*



*Like Bob wasn't already an expert on beer goggles.*

But settled on the ultimate snowglobe for Len, our faithful driver: A snowglobe featuring Hoover Dam, and a rainbow. That night we ate at the buffet in our hotel, and it was awful. Then we went into the casino and played blackjack, and it was awful. With heavy stomachs and light wallets we turned in for the night.

#### Day 4: Crimson Chrysalis

The alarm went off at the ridiculous hour of five. It had been decided early on that Thursday was to be our big day. We headed back to Pine Creek Canyon, bound for the Red Rocks über classic "Crimson Chrysalis". Nine pitches of 5.8 in under 10 hours of daylight, we knew we could make it if we didn't dawdle. The only thing standing between us and glory was the approach. An hour of merciless cactus-schwacking and game-trail wandering followed by 45 minutes of steep and loose upper-third class hiking. But at last in the slowly brightening daylight we arrived at the bottom of the route to find:

We'd been beaten by about ten minutes.



*Ambrose contemplates the rest of our day at the foot of "Crimson Chrysalis"*

When this happens, your worst fear is that the people who beat you to the route are complete noobs. Well they were not only complete noobs- leading was a boulderer, the follower was on her first multipitch climb, and they were using double ropes- but they were carrying on some kind of domestic dispute at belay stations.

Thus convinced we'd been shut down and wouldn't be summiting, we relaxed and concentrated on enjoying every individual grain of the Aztec sandstone over which we were traveling. Fully reveling in the experience of hanging from one anchor for up to three-quarters of an hour at a time. Closely studying the undersides of the rock shoes worn by the team above us. That sort of thing. At the final anchor we reached, Bob and Ambrose spiced it up for me:

Bob: "Dude, this part is REALLY STOUT."

Ambrose: "Oh yeah, really tough for the grade."

Me: (scampering up 5.6 terrain): "Oh. Oh... what? Wait are you serious?" (looking up at low-angle jug-filled slab)

Bob: "Yeah, that right there, that's the crux. Look out!" (seeing me clipping a bolt) "Hey you better extend that draw!! You're gonna get SKETCHED."

Me: "..."

At two-thirty, knowing that darkness would begin to descend at four, we turned around. The team in front of us continued upwards to their own fate, while we enjoyed speedy double-rope rappels from crowded rap stations. I think doing six four-person rappels is the true test of a group's cohesiveness. And we turned out... okay.



*You're gonna get sketched.*

We touched down about around four and finished the hike out in the dark.

Crimson Chrysalis is a fun route, we all found it to be easy for the grade with very solid hand and footholds for most of the route. The crux of the route is probably the weirdly placed bolts (frequently eight feet away from an easily protected and climbed crack) and the strangely-located anchors (occasionally necessitating hanging belays, frequently located thirty feet above or below a huge ledge.



*Reactions to crowded rap stations vary from one climber to the next*

That night we sought out a quality buffet. We found one in the Hilton, but the line was epic and we hadn't brought bivy sacks, so we settled for a fine Thanksgiving feast at a café. The turkey was great and Ambrose said the prime rib was excellent. On the way out I suggested that we have a drink at the Star Trek bar. I mean, it's famous... we were right there... Not only was nobody else interested, but the final trip nickname was settled upon: I was dubbed Spock.

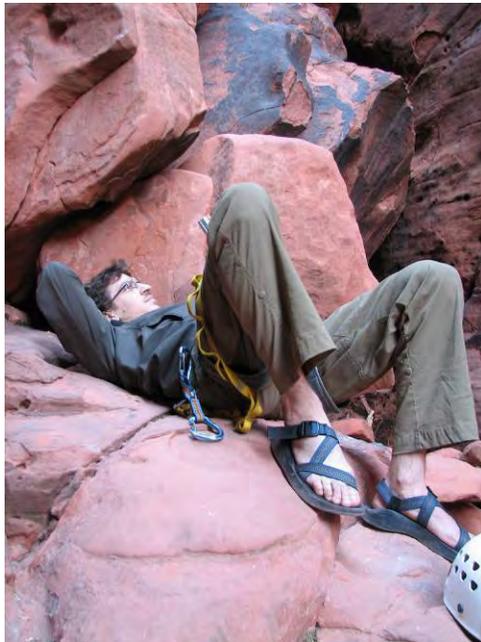
Oh well, at least they didn't call me Wesley. Later on we determined once and for all that Vegas is a weird place to be on Thanksgiving.

#### **Day 5: Black Corridor, and The Triumphant Return Home**

The alarm went off at our well-deserved sleep-in hour of eight o'clock. We headed out for the dense sport climbing of the second pullout. This was it, our last day, and with no reason to conserve sore muscles we set goals for ourselves. "Everyone has to work a route until they can redpoint it", said Ambrose, and we all nodded in agreement. "And everyone has to take a leader fall." We cautiously looked around for signs of weakness in one another, and seeing none we all nodded. We also set personal goals for what kind of routes we were going to climb. Go big or go home! Well, go big AND go home on this day... I guess.



*mmm... cruxy: Eric flirts with gravity on "Deception"*



*Just chillin', like Bob Dylan*

The guide book listed the approach as 10-15 minutes, but we presume that only applies if you magically condense missing information that allows you to follow their vague instructions directly to the climbing. We got lost two or three times and it took us about a half hour.

The Black Corridor is a canyon and is a popular crag in the summer time, apparently, because it's about fifteen feet wide and gets almost no sun during the day. Being that we're masochistic fools, we thought it would be a good place to climb in November. It was actually pretty nice provided we wore all our extra clothes. The place was as crowded as a climbing gym, with routes every ten or fifteen feet on both sides of the canyon. Everything was bolted and steep routes with good holds were the norm. After some warming up, Mike led a 5.10a called "Vegabonds" and then, not content to merely meet his goal, cruised an unknown 5.10c in the neighborhood. I worked a 5.11a called "Deception" on top rope before going up to lead it. At the crux move with the bolt at my feet I got nervous but tried to talk myself out of it. "C'mon... you just did this move on top rope... okay, reach over, go for the hold-" POP, I abruptly found myself ten feet lower. Okay, I guess that was my leader fall for the day. I crawled back up to the hard part and nailed it my second time around.

The day was getting cooler and darker but we weren't ready to be done yet, so we headed to the upper tier of the corridor, where a tough-looking 5.11b was waiting for Ambrose. It turned out to be sandbagged and the moves were a mystery. After Ambrose bravely traversed to set up a top rope, Bob took a crack at it and got similarly shut down. I think we all wanted a piece of that one but the setting sun dictated otherwise.



*Sometimes a route is ugly. And sometimes you are ugly on a route*

The hike out was simpler than the hike in, but not without it's route finding challenges. We saw flashes we at first thought were lighting, but proved to be photographers shooting something. Shooting what? Shooting girls. For a calendar. Directly in my path to the car! The others thought a more wandering route was appropriate, but I took the direct line. Hey I can't help it if I have superior route finding skills.

We finished the last night on familiar ground, back at BJ's Brewpub. With bellies full we hit the road bound for the airport. But struck suddenly by some kind of self-consciousness we decided we needed to change clothes. But with no hotel room, where could we safely disrobe? The answer: a random Las Vegas parking lot. I helpfully pulled up alongside a convenient fluorescent light and we put on a low-budget and lower-talent show for anyone who happened to be driving along Sahara Avenue.

After returning the rental car, checking in for our flights, waiting for Bob to get cavity searched by airport security, and pouring our remaining cash into the ubiquitous slot machines at the airport, we boarded the flight home. Touching down in Sea-Tac, damp air caressed our cheeks, and news caressed our ears, news of epic flooding, destruction in Mount Rainier National Park, landslides, rivers changing course, etc... why did we leave sunny Nevada, again? Len was faithfully on time and was rewarded with the souvenir snowglobe. He was pretty much speechless, I think he was kinda choked up. Shortly we were all back home preparing to face the working week once more.

#### **Epilogue: Summary, Reflection, Blatant Lies**

Red Rocks has something to offer everyone, whether you're looking for short hard sport routes or long trad lines with an alpine-like feel. The sandstone makes for varied climbs that can demand any kind of technique, and the density of climbs is amazing. And if you like Vegas, well, you can't beat the proximity to Vegas, and if you don't, you can at least find cheap lodging and flights. Climbing is possible year round, and in the winter can make a great sunny getaway from the gray skies with which we're so familiar. So go get it!



*Happy trails!*

---

*COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...*

→ *THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*

→ *YOUR TRIP REPORT (YES, YOU !!!!)*

→ *AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS Jan.20 ...*

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

Name:

---

—

BEMS ID:

---

Address:

---

E-mail:

---

—

### **Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release**

- |   |             |  |
|---|-------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Member</b>            | <b>\$20</b> | Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Associate Member</b>  | <b>\$20</b> | Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Retiree</b>           | <b>\$20</b> | Retiree in accordance with IRS definition  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Family</b>            | <b>\$0</b>  | Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Guest/Vol. Instr.</b> | <b>\$0</b>  | Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.   |

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

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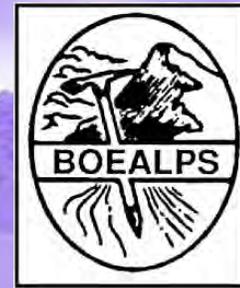
Signe Franzen

*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

FEBRUARY 2007



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JUST ANNOUNCED AND HOT OFF THE PRESS :  
BOEALPS SPONSORS GARY BRILL AVALANCHE SAFETY SEMINAR !!!! SEE DETAILS P.10

## EXCLUSIVE !!!

### NEW ROUTE CLIMBED ON CERRO TORRE:

### COME HEAR AND SEE COLIN HALEY AT BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING

BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 1 February, 18:30

AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG  
7755 E MARGINAL WY S



# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

I don't know about you, but in many ways I feel this is the most exciting time of the year for BoeAlpS: it's time again to prepare for the climbing classes, and get ready to welcome dozens of newcomers who are counting on current members to introduce them to the wonderful world of the Northwest outdoors. So let's roll up our sleeves and show them our mountains !

To get everyone into the mood, we have an amazing tale that should inspire all for the coming season: our Programs staff has again managed a "tour de force" by convincing Colin Haley to speak at the February General Meeting and recount his pioneering of a new climbing route up Cerro Torre. You will NOT want to miss this: why read it in a magazine when you could hear it and see it live !!!

As this issue was being released, an announcement came through that Boealps will host a Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar !!! This has been in the works for several weeks, and dates have finally been set: sign up now for this highly rated class as places are extremely limited. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to be safe in the backcountry with one of the most knowledgeable guides in the region.

The Winter Climb Series is winding down, with the final two outings occurring this month. Don't miss these last opportunities to show off your snowshoe skills !!!

You will also find in this issue all the current details on how to sign up for the Basic Climbing Class and the Intermediate Climbing Class.

Mike Zalewski will also be extremely relieved to finally see his trip report grace our pages ! His submittal regarding an ice climbing trip to Bridelveils Falls was... uh... shall we say... misplaced... But hey, let's not dwell on the past: read all about his trip in this issue !

You will also find in this edition the usual society news tidbits and community issues deserving your attention and involvement. A long awaited and long overdue rebirth is taking place in this Echo: the Conservation column is back !!! More than ever, with so many climatic, social and political events affecting our climbing lives, it is good to see this column back and hopefully inspire us to take whatever little steps we can to make a difference.

And perhaps some surprises even await you around the page... Go ahead: have a look !

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,

François

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
February General Meeting.....	p. 8
Winter Outing Series.....	p. 9
Recreational Avalanche Safety Seminar.....	p. 10
Basic Climbing Class 2007.....	p. 11
Intermediate Climbing Class 2007.....	p. 12
REPORTS	
Winthrop Ski Trip.....	p. 13
<i>n00bs On Ice</i> by Mike Zalewski.....	p. 14
COLUMNS	
Conservation Corner.....	p. 16
BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY	
VertFest.....	p. 18
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 19
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 20
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 21



BCC 2005 - Crevasse Rescue Outing on the Nisqually - 7 May 2005 (photo by F.Godcharles)

<b>February</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 Gen. Meeting Colin Haley on Cerro Torre !!!	2	3
4 Winter Outing 5	5 MOFA 6	6	7 MOFA 7	8	9	10
11	12 MOFA 8	13 Board Meeting	14	15	16	17
18 Winter Outing 6	19 Echo Deadline	20	21 BCC Instructors Meeting	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 BCC ORIENTATION	<b>2007</b>		

<b>March</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				<b>1</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> BCC Lecture 1	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Board Meeting Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar 1	<b>14</b> BCC Lecture 2	<b>15</b> Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar 2	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> ← BCC StEdwards
<b>18</b> → Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar Field Trip	<b>19</b> ICC Lecture 1 Echo Deadline	<b>20</b> Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar 3	<b>21</b> BCC Lecture 3	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> ← BCC MtErie ← ICC Horsethief
<b>25</b> →	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> BCC Lecture 4	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> ← BCC Stevens

**2007**



Sunrise on our Way Up Little Tahoma - June 2006 (photo by F. Godcharles)

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

Are you having a strange feeling these days that you're not receiving important Boealps notices ? Well, that just might be true: we have experienced some issues recently with mailing lists misbehaving. Try logging on to the web site, and going to "My Communication Preferences" (under "My Account") to have your E-Mail address added again to the mailing list. And, hopefully, you'll be welcomed back into the world of Boealps !

...

A little shuffling of the Board (oh the pun !) occurred recently:

- Al Baal, previously noted as Co-Conservation Chair has shifted seats and is now our appointed Membership person. He has the daunting task of building up our membership database and keeping this year's roster up to date. Good luck Al !

...

A new welcomed addition to the Board team:

- Vlad Popa has bravely stepped forward (although he may have been "pushed" forward a little as well...) to take on the duties of Education Chair. Vlad will help to set up seminars and special classes throughout the year. In the works: avalanche awareness class, ice climbing seminar, aid climbing seminar, lead climbing seminar,... Contact him for more details on these or other seminar ideas.

...

If you're new to Boealps you may not be aware of this, but "old-timers" will have fond memories of the Boealps library, a collection of outdoors literature built up over the early years of the club. The library still exists, but with members being spread out all over the Seattle area, it became difficult to manage. The collection was stored for years at the Oxbow facility, but will soon have a new life: the Board and Boeing have recently approved a move to the 2-22 building, which will allow members dropping by for classes or meetings to consult, borrow, or return books. The details of the logistics still need to be fine-tuned, but it will be nice to have access to these volumes again !

The club, of course, now needs a new librarian to inventory the library content, keep track of it, and be the custodian. Interested ? Contact Vlad Popa: [vlad.popa@gmail.com](mailto:vlad.popa@gmail.com)

...

A reminder: the club also owns various outdoors equipment available for members to borrow. An effort is currently under way with our equipment focals (Silas Wild, Mike Jacobsen, and John Gowan) to bring the list of club equipment up to date. Budget has also been set aside this year for purchasing additional items. The equipment chair is currently looking for input from members as to the perceived needs of the club for this equipment, which equipment is of interest to members, suggestions, ideas, etc.

The web site currently lists what is referred to as the club's equipment philosophy, and feedback from members is being requested as to whether this philosophy should still be the driving force behind the club's equipment purchases.

If you are a user of club equipment and would like to share your views on this subject, please contact Silas Wild: [silaswild@yahoo.com](mailto:silaswild@yahoo.com) or drop by the next Board meeting !  
Your input would be highly appreciated and will help to better serve the members' needs !

...

# **JETTY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

Of course, the big news these days is the upcoming start of our two major classes, the BCC 2007 and the ICC 2007.

- The BCC will have its Orientation night on 28 February, with Jerry Baillie returning as Chief Instructor. This year, Jerry will be helped by a new Treasurer in Andrea Vandehey. Some members have already volunteered their time and energy to help out with this year's class but as you know, the class typically will have 60 to 80 students so lots of help is required. Every little bit helps so contact Jerry if you want to be a part of the BCC: [jbaillie@mac.com](mailto:jbaillie@mac.com)

Note that a BCC Instructors Meeting will take place on Wednesday 21 February, at 6:30pm , at the 2-22 building.

- The ICC is scheduled to start 19 March, with Ambrose Bittner at the helm again this year. Instructors are also required to help with the ICC, to maintain the student - to - instructor ratio that has become its trademark. Contact Ambrose if you want to help out: [ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com](mailto:ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com)



Helping out with the classes is.... FUN !

...

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin ([micah.nolin@boeing.com](mailto:micah.nolin@boeing.com))

...

And finally, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13 February 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

...



# BoeAlps General Meeting Agenda February 1<sup>st</sup> 2007

**Guest Speaker: [Colin Haley](#), Mountain Climber**

**LOCATION: 2-22 building ground floor (if attendance is high enough we will move upstairs)**

Boealpers,

If you want to hear about the new link up on Cerro Torre you can read a little about it in the Hot Topics section on Climbing Magazines website (link below) or you can get the whole story by attending the Boealps February general meeting. This month we are very fortunate to have Colin Haley one of the 2 climbers on this exciting expedition come talk to us about his experience on this climb and he will have a slideshow.

<http://climbing.com/news/hotflashes/cerrotorrelink/>

For those not familiar with Cerro Torre it is claimed to be one of the most spectacular mountains in the Southern Patagonian Ice Field. Just look at the picture below if you need proof. It is located between Argentina and Chile. The first undisputed climb of Cerro Torre was not until 1974.

About Colin:

Colin Haley has been climbing since about the age of 10 or roughly 12 years now.

Unlike most climbers his age, who tend to start in the gym, Colin began alpine climbing and slowly learned to rock climb afterwards.

Like any true Northwesterner, Colin has climbed mostly in the Cascades, but has traveled and climbed extensively in the BC Coast Ranges, the Canadian Rockies, the Sierras, the Alaska Range, the Alps, the Himalaya, Bolivia, Peru, and Patagonia.

This was Colin's third trip to Patagonia, and the second which was done during his holiday vacation from the UW. Currently Colin is spending most of his time working towards a BS in Geology from the UW.



If you have not taken the opportunity to renew your membership for 2007 this is a great opportunity to save a stamp and an envelope. Membership forms can be found on the website and in the back of the Echo (which is also on the website). Any one of the board members will be willing to collect your membership form.

In the works is another very special presentation for the March general meeting. The proposed speaker has agreed to speak if he is back from his expedition to Aconcagua. Since it is not a done deal I don't want to disappoint everyone but keep your eyes open for the March general meeting announcement in a few weeks.

Also if you have not been receiving Boealps emails please check your account on the website. You might need to update your existing account or create a new one.

Thanks,  
Micah  
Boealps Vice President

## Time Breakdown

6:30 – 7:00	Social Time
7:00 – 7:15	General Announcements
7:15 – 8:30	Colin Haley
8:30 – 8:45	Social Time
8:45	Adjourn



## WINTER OUTING SERIES

Come join us for a Winter Climb, or two !

Skills Required: Basic Class or equivalent

Physical Difficulty: typically 3-4,000 ft. elevation gain plus x-country travel on snowshoes

Gear Required: snowshoes, shovel, avalanche beacon, ice axe, ski poles

Where: it depends, but somewhere higher than home and within a 2 hr. drive.

When: 2/4 and 2/18

We handle all arrangements via the web. Jump on the distribution list by dropping a note containing your preferred email address to Mike Bingle [mbingle@comcast.net](mailto:mbingle@comcast.net). The week before the trip an announcement comes out with details on destination, where to meet, and all that good stuff. Sign ups are on line via a Yahoo Group poll.

---

# RECREATIONAL AVALANCHE SAFETY SEMINAR WITH GARY BRILL

## **Course Description:**

The Recreational Avalanche Safety course includes three classroom lectures and one full day of field work, stressing safe backcountry travel techniques, terrain, and snow pack observation and testing, and the effective use of new generation avalanche transceivers.

## **Classroom Lectures Dates:**

Tuesday 13 March, Thursday 15 March, Tuesday 20 March, 6:30pm to 9:00pm

## **Field Trip:**

Sunday 18 March, full day

## **Cost:**

\$160

Class is limited to a maximum of 18 students, with a minimum of 8 students required for the class to happen. *Please sign up early for this class as spaces are limited!*

Class will be given by Gary Brill and/or Don Langlois, depending on number of students.

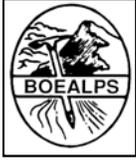
Classroom location is not fully confirmed at this time but will most likely be Building 2-22.

For more details and to sign-up, please contact:

Vlad Popa

vlad.popa@gmail.com    or    vlad.popa@boeing.com

206-227-0344            or    206-544-3346



# **BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY**

## **2007 Basic Mountaineering Class**

It's a crisp clear day and you're stuck in the typical Seattle traffic snarl. Mount Rainier is looming brilliantly on the horizon. Is there something there that is calling to you?

Do you wonder if you have what it takes to stand atop the mountains of the Pacific Northwest?

Are you looking for a new challenge?

If so, then the Boeing Alpine Society's (Boealps) basic mountaineering class may be for you. Over this three month course, they will teach you the basic skills you need to travel safely in the mountains and climb Washington's highest summits.

**Curriculum:**

- Navigation
- Mountain Travel
- Rock Climbing
- Weather
- Glacier Travel
- Gear & Clothing
- Basic First Aid
- Organizing, Planning and Leading your own climbs
- Knots & Rope-work
- Crevasse Rescue
- Teamwork
- and much, much, more



**Class Structure:**

The class is organized into teams of 8-10 students with one seasoned lead instructor and several assistant instructors. The instructor-to-student ratio is very high, enhancing safety and ensuring a lot of one-on-one attention. The students work as a team. This creates a support structure that leads to a high rate of success. It is not uncommon for teams to form strong friendships through the class and to continue climbing together for years.



**Time Commitment:**

The basic class is fairly time consuming. There is a classroom session every Wednesday night and an outing almost every weekend.

Start: February 28rd (Orientation)

End: June 13th (Graduation)

**Orientation and Final Signup is February 28th 7pm**  
**Building 2-22 Cafeteria**  
**(Plant II, just north of the flagpole)**

**Monetary Commitment:**

The class itself costs \$250 per person for Boeing Employees or \$300 per person for Non Employees. (This low rate is possible because the instructor positions are filled entirely by volunteers.) Typically, a student will spend \$300+ on gear during the class. Employees are responsible for a \$20 membership fee.

**Physical Commitment:**

Climbing is a physically demanding activity. Participants should be healthy. You don't need to be able to run marathons, but a basic level of fitness is necessary. Students should do some aerobic training before the class begins (at least 2-3 times a week for 30-45 minutes... starting now!).

**Contacts:**

- Class Contact:      Robyn Garrison      [rgarrison58@yahoo.com](mailto:rgarrison58@yahoo.com)  
                              Nabil Abdalla      [nabil.abdalla@gmail.com](mailto:nabil.abdalla@gmail.com)  
                              Dirk Visser      [dvisser@netzero.net](mailto:dvisser@netzero.net)  
 Head Instructor:    Jerry Baillie      [jbaille@mac.com](mailto:jbaille@mac.com)  
 Class Website:      <http://www.boealps.org/Classes/Basic/Basic.aspx>

# BOEALPS

## 2007 Intermediate Climbing Class

The Boeing Employee's Alpine Society Intermediate Climbing Class expands the physical, mental and technical limits of those who wish to challenge themselves in the alpine environment.



In an intensive, hands-on environment, you will learn the skills and gain the experience necessary for you to be self-sufficient on intermediate-level alpine climbs. Skills you will learn include:

- Leading traditional, multi-pitch rock climbing
- Steep Snow and Ice climbing
- Self-rescue techniques
- Weekend alpine and expedition climb planning

Class outings are approximately every other weekend from middle of March to the end of August, plus classroom sessions every other Monday evening.

Students are expected to be in excellent physical condition and have some technical climbing experience beyond that gained in the basic climbing class.

Application Deadline: Friday, March 2, 2007  
1<sup>st</sup> Classroom Session: Monday, March 19, 2007  
Cost: \$360 for Boealps members, \$400 for non-members

For an application and more information, please contact:

Ambrose Bittner  
Email: [ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com](mailto:ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com)  
Phone: 206-568-0710

**NOTE: Information regarding the ICC is in the process of being updated on the web site !  
Until the web site is updated, please contact Ambrose for the latest information !**

## WINTHROP X-COUNTRY SKI TRIP

And when it was all said and done, many went to the white paradise and braved cold temperatures to glide and carve and surf to their heart's content...

Many, many thanks to Signe and Patty for stepping in to organize and run the show !



Tandem ski anyone ? Signe and Greg getting ready to cross-country !

# n00bs on ice

December 2, 2006

Bob Bautista, Eric Fjellanger, Tom Ryan, and Mike Zalewski (scribe)

This is another story about the trials and tribulations of ice climbers attempting to locate that elusive climbing medium in this fair state of Washington. Many joke about the fact that Washington and ice climbing shouldn't be used in the same sentence and the majority of times they are right, but there are a few times when the conditions are right, the ice forms, and throngs of Washington ice climbers head for the hills. This is not one of those times!

Following a week of record cold and some investigation of Washington ice destinations, Tom Ryan sent out the APB for any interest in going ice climbing. His belief was that maybe, just maybe with this period of cold weather over a couple weeks in the lowlands there would be some good ice climbs that were in. The emails flew around between Tom, Bob, and Eric with the plans. Myself? Well, I was looking forward to a weekend of doing nothing, but as always the email chain found its way to me. A couple of peer pressure emails later and some questioning of my manhood; I quickly became part of the team. So much for spending my Saturday sleeping in late and sitting in from of the tube watching football. 4:30am wakeup here I come, ugh.

The alarm goes off at 4:30am just as I had unfortunately set it. Here we go. I met up with Tom, Eric, and Bob at the Jack In The Box in Monroe and we were off to Index. Tom really was interested in checking out Bridelveil Falls. If any of you don't know about this particular waterfall, it is near the town of Index about 1.5 miles up the Lake Serene Trail. It is a very big waterfall with a lot of water volume, thus the need for very cold weather for a very long time to freeze it up. With the cold that we had for the last couple weeks, this rarely forming waterfall may just be in this time.

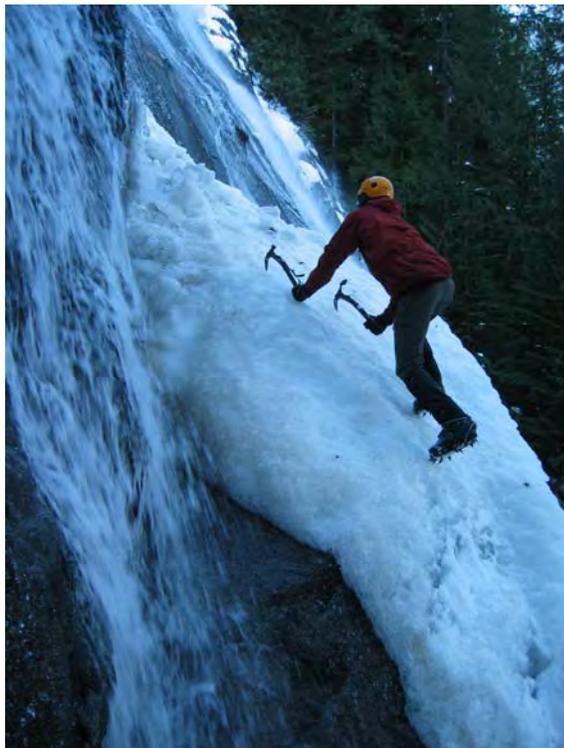
We arrived first (what a surprise) at the trailhead in darkness around 5:30am; however, another group showed up about 15 minutes after us (that was a surprise), but their objective was something else, so we would still have the falls to ourselves once we got there. As we walked up, Bob and I quietly commented to each other about the very small streams of water crossing our path every so often were not frozen. We were in agreement that this was probably not a good sign. On we trudged, we didn't want to kill Tom's dream. After about an hour or so, we could hear water flowing...a lot of water flowing. I was in front of the pack and came around the corner to see a fully flowing watery waterfall. A frozen Bridelveil Falls was not to be that day, not even close.

So what do you do when your objective is a bust? Check the situation out closer and see what you can climb. Voila, the invention of shallow water ice bouldering. Turns out there were a couple frozen chunks of ice about 10-15 feet tall at the base of the falls next to the running water that we all goofed around on doing some traversing and dry tooling. Bob and Tom even climbed up a chunk that had an inviting pool of water right below it just waiting for a misplaced pick for it to gobble up its victim with lots of watery goodness. Fortunately they both styled it and came away as dry as they could, being that it was right next to the main waterfall.

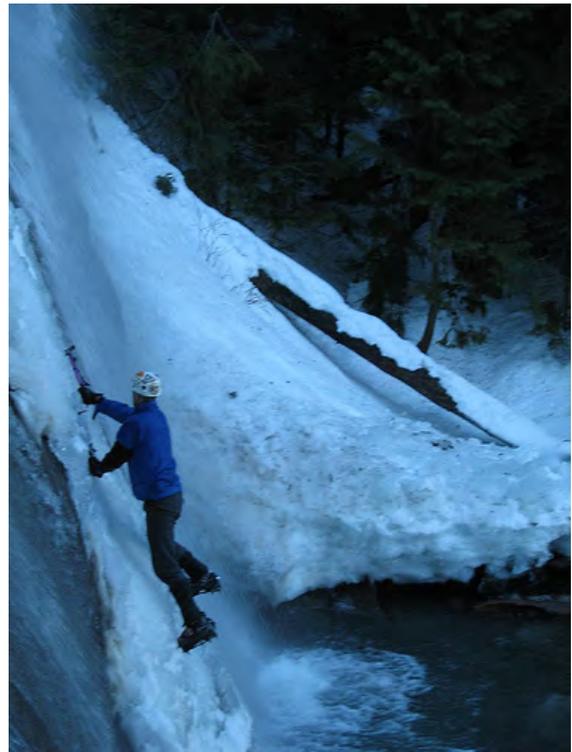
So continues the adventures of ice climbing in Washington. If anything good came out of this outing, it was that one, we got some exercise, and two, we know that it needs to be really, really, really cold for a really, really, really long time for Bridelveil Falls to form. Hopefully this story will help you ice climbers out there for when that next cold streak hits and you can go get yours. Just make sure it's not Bridelveil Falls, you'll probably be out of luck.



Tom Ryan doing some ice bouldering



Bob Bautista on a pretty wet piece of ice



Tom Ryan above the shallow pool



# CONSERVATION CORNER



Fellow Boealpers,

I haven't written anything in this column for, oh, about two years, so I figured it was time to get off the high horse, and begin simply with three concrete suggestions regarding environment-oriented issues:

1. Looking for entertainment with an environmental bent? You could watch "An Inconvenient Truth" a few dozen times, or you could go to the Northwest Environmental Education Council films at Camp Long (West Seattle):

<http://www.nweec.org/ea.htm>

These films are typically free (donations accepted), and usually attended by about 30 people (from the 4-5 times I've attended). As time allows, an informal discussion follows, and I've found these discussions to be thought-provoking and highly interactive. Check this out, call/e-mail some folks to go, and open those eyes.

2. Mt. Rainier National Park suffered tremendous damage from the massive floods in early November 2006. Currently, the park remains closed. General estimates seem to assess the damage at \$36 million, and that's for Mt. Rainier National Park; Olympic and North Cascades National Parks incurred the wrath of Mother Nature, but no firm damage estimates made public yet. Take action and get involved; at least two ways come to mind:

a. Donate money to the Washington's National Park Fund:

<http://www.wnspf.org/>

for information, and click "Donate" to contribute what you can. This site allows you the option of directing which of Washington's three national parks receive your contribution. REI has pledged \$75,000 in conjunction with the Washington's National Park Fund.

b. Donate time/energy to Washington Trails Association

[www.wta.org](http://www.wta.org)

This is a great organization, listing year-round volunteer opportunities for trail maintenance and other ways to volunteer your time. Most of us get exposure to trail maintenance at the end of the Basic Climbing Class each year, but keep the fire burning by getting involved in at least one work party a year. I've met some supreme knuckleheads who are so enthusiastic about trail maintenance they have gone on week-long work parties in lieu of a vacation they had planned - and enjoyed every minute of it.

Note the not-so-fringe benefit of joining a work party: Two days of trail maintenance = one year-long Northwest Forest Pass, required at National Forest trailheads throughout Washington and Oregon. This would cost you \$30 (and that's a fair amount of labor for \$30, admittedly), but it's for a good cause. E-mail friends/neighbors/Boealps/all three/none of the above, and get the wheel moving.



# CONSERVATION CORNER



### 3. Glaciers melting in Switzerland

And all over Europe, for that matter: 84 out of 85 glaciers that were measured in Switzerland showed they had shortened in the last year, some by non-negligible amounts:

<http://www.commondreams.org/headlines07/0120-06.htm>

Reports in an Associated Press article (published in the Tuesday, Jan. 23 Seattle Times) indicated at current rates of melting the Europe's glaciers would be gone by 2050 - and that being a conservative estimate, 2037 was possible for the end of all European glaciers; that's 30 years from now.

Note: We're working to get Mike "Gator" Gauthier, lead climbing ranger at Rainier, to speak at the March 1 General Meeting, but he's off playing hookey (read: climbing Aconcagua) while the park is closed. Stay tuned to the ECHO for details.

Enjoy the month of February - and whether you skate ski, telemark, randonee, downhill, cross-country, snowboard, ice climb, or go to General Meeting, please carpool, ride the bus, take your bike.

Sincerely,

Len Kannapell  
Conservation Chair  
kannapell@yahoo.com

P.S. Got ideas? Got feedback? Fire away, I can take a hit.

# BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY

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Hello fellow human powered adventurer:

Outdoor Research and Crystal Mountain are pleased to invite you to a celebration of backcountry VertiCulture in the Cascades on March 3, 2007 – VertFest.

VertFest is a celebration of human powered adventure in the Cascade mountains of Washington. It's a chance to get together with people who love a challenge and a day out in the snow. It's about getting some vert and feeling the pull of gravity... a celebration of backcountry VertiCulture. VertFest is an excuse to have some fun whatever you choose to strap to your feet and whatever your pace. Taking place within the Crystal Mountain ski area, VertFest will be the highest profile backcountry celebration in the Pacific Northwest.

All VertFest net proceeds will be donated to the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center. Visit the NWAC website at [nwac.noaa.gov](http://nwac.noaa.gov)

You can check out VertFest details and register at: <http://www.orgear.com/home/page/home/vertfest>  
There will be cash and gear prizes across a broad range of divisions, as well as various activities throughout the day: VertFest Randonee Rally, Freeride Blitz, Snowshoe Race, Guided Snowshoe Tour, Clinics, Gear Petting Zoo and Demos, ...

We hope to see you there. Please pass the word along!

Be well and ski well.

Kaj Bune  
Director of Brand Development  
Outdoor Research  
Designed By Adventure [www.orgear.com](http://www.orgear.com)

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

CLIMBING TIP ?:

" Action without thought is a form of insanity; thought without action is a crime. "

- Albert Einstein

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## COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...

- A WORD FROM BOEALPS PRESIDENT ROBERT BAUTISTA ON THE YEAR AHEAD (NO REALLY BOB... WRITE SOMETHING... SERIOUSLY...)
- THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS
- YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)
- THE RETURN OF "PERSPECTIVES" (IF SOMEONE ASKS NICELY...)
- A NEW GEAR DORK'S CORNER COLUMN, FROM DORKMEISTER DIRK
- ANOTHER CONSERVATION COLUMN ??? (LEN'S ON A ROLL !!!)
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...

DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 19 FEBRUARY 2007...

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                        \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

*February Echo staff*

Editor: François Godcharles

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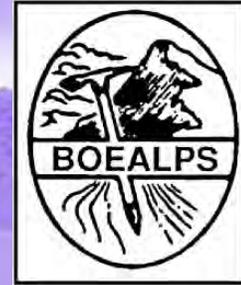
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*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at [editor@boealps.org](mailto:editor@boealps.org), or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

MARCH 2007



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**BOEALPS SPONSORS GARY BRILL AVALANCHE SAFETY SEMINAR !!!! SEE DETAILS P.10**

**COME HEAR AND SEE  
NOTED LOCAL CLIMBER  
STEVE SWENSON  
AT BOEALPS  
GENERAL MEETING**

BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 1 Mar, 18:30

AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG  
7755 E MARGINAL WY S



# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

The deadline for several major Boealps programs is upon us!

The Basic Climbing Class orientation and deadline for registration is Wed., Feb. 28.

The deadline for registration for the Intermediate Climbing Class is Fri. Mar. 2.

The Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar starts soon. This has been in the works for several weeks, and dates have finally been set: sign up now for this highly rated class as places are extremely limited. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to be safe in the backcountry with one of the most knowledgeable guides in the region.

Steve Swenson will be speaking at the General Meeting Thur. Mar 1.

You will find in this issue all the current details on how to sign up for the Basic Climbing Class and the Intermediate Climbing Class.

And perhaps some surprises even await you around the page... Go ahead: have a look !

We seem to be having continuing problems with the [editor@boealps.org](mailto:editor@boealps.org) account. Please send Echo submissions directly to Francois or Rich.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !  
One of your editors,  
Rich

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 7
BOEALPS EVENTS	
<i>March General Meeting</i> .....	p. 9
<i>Recreational Avalanche Safety Seminar</i> .....	p. 10
<i>Basic Climbing Class 2007</i> .....	p. 11
<i>Intermediate Climbing Class 2007</i> .....	p. 12
REPORTS	
<i>Mt. Vesuvius</i> .....	p. 13
ADVANCE NOTICE - PATOGONIA TRIP .....	P. 15
BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY	
VertFest.....	p. 16
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 17
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 18
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 19



BCC 2005 - Crevasse Rescue Outing on the Nisqually - 7 May 2005 (photo by F.Godcharles)

<b>February</b>						
25	26	27	28 BCC ORIENTATION			<b>2007</b>

# March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 Gen. Meeting Steve Swenson	2 ICC registration deadline	3
4	5	6	7 BCC Lecture 1	8	9	10
11	12	13 Board Meeting Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar 1	14 BCC Lecture 2	15 Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar 2	16	17 ← BCC StEdwards
18 → Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar Field Trip	19 ICC Lecture 1 Echo Deadline	20 Gary Brill Avalanche Safety Seminar 3	21 BCC Lecture 3	22	23	24 ← BCC MtErie ← ICC Horsethief
25 → ←	26	27	28 BCC Lecture 4	29	30	31 ← BCC Stevens

**2007**

# April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 →	2 ICC Lecture 2	3	4 BCC Lecture 5	1 Gen. Meeting	6	7 BCC Commonwealth Basin ← ICC Snow Skills ←
8 → →	9	10 Board Meeting	11 BCC Lecture 6	12	13	14 BCC Devil's Peak I ←
15 →	16 ICC Lecture 3	17	18 BCC Lecture 7	19	20	21 ← BCC Devil's Peak II ICC Leavenworth ←
22 → →	23 Echo Deadline	24	25 BCC Lecture 8	26	27	28 ← BCC Leavenworth BoeAlpS Spring Campout
29 →	30 ICC Lecture 4					

2007

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

Are you having a strange feeling these days that you're not receiving important Boealps notices ? Well, that just might be true: we have experienced some issues recently with mailing lists misbehaving. Try logging on to the web site, and going to "My Communication Preferences" (under "My Account") to have your E-Mail address added again to the mailing list. And, hopefully, you'll be welcomed back into the world of Boealps !

...

A little shuffling of the Board (oh the pun !) occurred recently:

- Al Baal, previously noted as Co-Conservation Chair has shifted seats and is now our appointed Membership person. He has the daunting task of building up our membership database and keeping this year's roster up to date. Good luck Al !

...

A new welcomed addition to the Board team:

- Vlad Popa has bravely stepped forward (although he may have been "pushed" forward a little as well...) to take on the duties of Education Chair. Vlad will help to set up seminars and special classes throughout the year. In the works: avalanche awareness class, ice climbing seminar, aid climbing seminar, lead climbing seminar,... Contact him for more details on these or other seminar ideas.

...

If you're new to Boealps you may not be aware of this, but "old-timers" will have fond memories of the Boealps library, a collection of outdoors literature built up over the early years of the club. The library still exists, but with members being spread out all over the Seattle area, it became difficult to manage. The collection was stored for years at the Oxbow facility, but will soon have a new life: the Board and Boeing have recently approved a move to the 2-22 building, which will allow members dropping by for classes or meetings to consult, borrow, or return books. The details of the logistics still need to be fine-tuned, but it will be nice to have access to these volumes again !

The club, of course, now needs a new librarian to inventory the library content, keep track of it, and be the custodian. Interested ? Contact Vlad Popa: [vlad.popa@gmail.com](mailto:vlad.popa@gmail.com)

...

A reminder: the club also owns various outdoors equipment available for members to borrow. An effort is currently under way with our equipment focals (Silas Wild, Mike Jacobsen, and John Gowan) to bring the list of club equipment up to date. Budget has also been set aside this year for purchasing additional items. The equipment chair is currently looking for input from members as to the perceived needs of the club for this equipment, which equipment is of interest to members, suggestions, ideas, etc.

The web site currently lists what is referred to as the club's equipment philosophy, and feedback from members is being requested as to whether this philosophy should still be the driving force behind the club's equipment purchases.

If you are a user of club equipment and would like to share your views on this subject, please contact Silas Wild: [silaswild@yahoo.com](mailto:silaswild@yahoo.com) or drop by the next Board meeting ! Your input would be highly appreciated and will help to better serve the members' needs !

...

# **JETTY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

Of course, the big news these days is the upcoming start of our two major classes, the BCC 2007 and the ICC 2007.

- The BCC will have its Orientation night on 28 February, with Jerry Baillie returning as Chief Instructor. This year, Jerry will be helped by a new Treasurer in Andrea Vandehey. Some members have already volunteered their time and energy to help out with this year's class but as you know, the class typically will have 60 to 80 students so lots of help is required. Every little bit helps so contact Jerry if you want to be a part of the BCC: [jbaillie@mac.com](mailto:jbaillie@mac.com)

Note that a BCC Instructors Meeting will take place on Wednesday 21 February, at 6:30pm , at the 2-22 building.

- The ICC is scheduled to start 19 March, with Ambrose Bittner at the helm again this year. Instructors are also required to help with the ICC, to maintain the student - to - instructor ratio that has become its trademark. Contact Ambrose if you want to help out: [ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com](mailto:ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com)



Helping out with the classes is.... FUN !

...

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin ([micah.nolin@boeing.com](mailto:micah.nolin@boeing.com))

...

And finally, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13 March 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

...



# BoeAlps General Meeting Agenda March 1<sup>st</sup> 2007

## OVERVIEW

### Guest Speaker: Steve Swenson

Steve Swenson has been climbing nearly all his life. He began in the Boy Scouts and spent his early years summitting peaks in the Cascades. By 1973 Steve began to branch out a bit; the Tetons, Canadian Rockies and by 1976 McKinley. After 1976 Steve regularly found himself climbing outside the state of Washington, going to far off exotic places like the French Alps, the Italian Dolomites, Pakistan and China!

This month, Steve will come and share with us his experiences in Pakistan over the last three years. He has attempted a new route on Naysar Brakk and several ascents on various peaks such as Hassin Peak and Farole East Peak.

His experience is extraordinary, his climbing resume nothing less than impressive. Come to the meeting and listen to a local legend share with us the secrets of his climbing adventures!!

### Location

2-22 Building

### Time Breakdown

6:30 – 7:00	Social Time
7:00-7:15	General Announcements By BoeAlps President Bob Bautista
7:30 – 8:45	Steve Swenson
8:45-9:00	Social Time
9:00	Adjourn

# RECREATIONAL AVALANCHE SAFETY SEMINAR WITH GARY BRILL

## **Course Description:**

The Recreational Avalanche Safety course includes three classroom lectures and one full day of field work, stressing safe backcountry travel techniques, terrain, and snow pack observation and testing, and the effective use of new generation avalanche transceivers.

## **Classroom Lectures Dates:**

Tuesday 13 March, Thursday 15 March, Tuesday 20 March, 6:30pm to 9:00pm

## **Field Trip:**

Sunday 18 March, full day

## **Cost:**

\$160

Class is limited to a maximum of 18 students, with a minimum of 8 students required for the class to happen. *Please sign up early for this class as spaces are limited!*

Class will be given by Gary Brill and/or Don Langlois, depending on number of students.

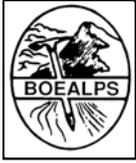
Classroom location is not fully confirmed at this time but will most likely be Building 2-22.

For more details and to sign-up, please contact:

Vlad Popa

vlad.popa@gmail.com    or    vlad.popa@boeing.com

206-227-0344            or    206-544-3346



# **BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY**

## **2007 Basic Mountaineering Class**

It's a crisp clear day and you're stuck in the typical Seattle traffic snarl. Mount Rainier is looming brilliantly on the horizon. Is there something there that is calling to you?

Do you wonder if you have what it takes to stand atop the mountains of the Pacific Northwest?

Are you looking for a new challenge?

If so, then the Boeing Alpine Society's (Boealps) basic mountaineering class may be for you. Over this three month course, they will teach you the basic skills you need to travel safely in the mountains and climb Washington's highest summits.

### **Curriculum:**

- Navigation
- Mountain Travel
- Rock Climbing
- Weather
- Glacier Travel
- Gear & Clothing
- Basic First Aid
- Organizing, Planning and Leading your own climbs
- Knots & Rope-work
- Crevasse Rescue
- Teamwork
- and much, much, more



### **Class Structure:**

The class is organized into teams of 8-10 students with one seasoned lead instructor and several assistant instructors. The instructor-to-student ratio is very high, enhancing safety and ensuring a lot of one-on-one attention. The students work as a team. This creates a support structure that leads to a high rate of success. It is not uncommon for teams to form strong friendships through the class and to continue climbing together for years.



### **Time Commitment:**

The basic class is fairly time consuming. There is a classroom session every Wednesday night and an outing almost every weekend.

Start: February 28rd (Orientation)

End: June 13th (Graduation)

**Orientation and Final Signup is February 28th 7pm**  
**Building 2-22 Cafeteria**  
**(Plant II, just north of the flagpole)**

### **Monetary Commitment:**

The class itself costs \$250 per person for Boeing Employees or \$300 per person for Non Employees. (This low rate is possible because the instructor positions are filled entirely by volunteers.) Typically, a student will spend \$300+ on gear during the class. Employees are responsible for a \$20 membership fee.

### **Physical Commitment:**

Climbing is a physically demanding activity. Participants should be healthy. You don't need to be able to run marathons, but a basic level of fitness is necessary. Students should do some aerobic training before the class begins (at least 2-3 times a week for 30-45 minutes... starting now!).

### **Contacts:**

- Class Contact:      Robyn Garrison      [rgarrison58@yahoo.com](mailto:rgarrison58@yahoo.com)  
                              Nabil Abdalla      [nabil.abdalla@gmail.com](mailto:nabil.abdalla@gmail.com)  
                              Dirk Visser      [dvisser@netzero.net](mailto:dvisser@netzero.net)  
 Head Instructor:    Jerry Baillie      [jbaille@mac.com](mailto:jbaille@mac.com)  
 Class Website:      <http://www.boealps.org/Classes/Basic/Basic.aspx>

# BOEALPS

## 2007 Intermediate Climbing Class

The Boeing Employee's Alpine Society Intermediate Climbing Class expands the physical, mental and technical limits of those who wish to challenge themselves in the alpine environment.



In an intensive, hands-on environment, you will learn the skills and gain the experience necessary for you to be self-sufficient on intermediate-level alpine climbs. Skills you will learn include:

- Leading traditional, multi-pitch rock climbing
- Steep Snow and Ice climbing
- Self-rescue techniques
- Weekend alpine and expedition climb planning

Class outings are approximately every other weekend from middle of March to the end of August, plus classroom sessions every other Monday evening.

Students are expected to be in excellent physical condition and have some technical climbing experience beyond that gained in the basic climbing class.

Application Deadline: Friday, March 2, 2007  
1<sup>st</sup> Classroom Session: Monday, March 19, 2007  
Cost: \$360 for Boealps members, \$400 for non-members

For an application and more information, please contact:

Ambrose Bittner  
Email: [ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com](mailto:ambrose@redlanternjourneys.com)  
Phone: 206-568-0710

Web - <http://www.the-summit.net/ICCwiki/tiki-index.php>

## Mt. Vesuvius    September 2006    Rich Humbert

I went to Italy to ascend Vesuvius and Etna last Sept. Vesuvius was barely a hike, a wide trail led from the parking area jammed with autos and tour buses. It was less than a mile and less than 1000 vertical ft. to the crater rim. The crater was somewhat impressive, being at least a few hundred feet deep with sharp walls. About half the summit was off limits, including the highest point. The last significant eruption was in 1944 and at the time of my visit, there was only a hint of steam coming from the crater. I was there on a Sunday late in September, after the peak season. I can only imagine the crowds in the Summer. The most impressive thing about Vesuvius is the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum which were buried in the eruption of 79 A.D. and give us



Trail to the Vesuvius summit.

R. Humbert photos

Pompeii forum and Vesuvius

our most complete picture of life in ancient Rome. 19<sup>th</sup> century archaeologists made casts of victims who were buried by the ash and subsequently decomposed leaving voids where the body had been. The most poignant victim is pictured below. A surprising amount of painted work is still visible on the inside of Pompeii buildings.



Oh S\*!\*#! I'm dead!



House altar and frescos, Pompeii



Plaster cast of Pompeii victim.

Maybe more next month on Mt. Etna.



Torres del Paine - Chile, R. Humbert Photo

Fitzroy and Cerro Torre are even more impressive.

## Antarctica and Patagonia

Dec 07 or Jan 08

Rich Humbert is considering a trip to the tip of South America, a cruise to the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula from Ushuaia, Argentina. Hope to climb volcanic Deception Island. Also, maybe hiking up to get views of Cerro Torre and Fitzroy.

This is likely to be quite an expensive trip, possibly \$5000 - \$6000?? for the cruise and an additional \$2000??? for transportation and Patagonia. Currently in the early stages of investigation regarding feasibility of the trip. If you might be interested, contact Rich - [richhumbert@hotmail.com](mailto:richhumbert@hotmail.com).

Skill level: BCC, not planning any serious rock climbing.

# BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY

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Hello fellow human powered adventurer:

Outdoor Research and Crystal Mountain are pleased to invite you to a celebration of backcountry VertiCulture in the Cascades on March 3, 2007 – VertFest.

VertFest is a celebration of human powered adventure in the Cascade mountains of Washington. It's a chance to get together with people who love a challenge and a day out in the snow. It's about getting some vert and feeling the pull of gravity... a celebration of backcountry VertiCulture. VertFest is an excuse to have some fun whatever you choose to strap to your feet and whatever your pace. Taking place within the Crystal Mountain ski area, VertFest will be the highest profile backcountry celebration in the Pacific Northwest.

All VertFest net proceeds will be donated to the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center. Visit the NWAC website at [nwac.noaa.gov](http://nwac.noaa.gov)

You can check out VertFest details and register at: <http://www.orgear.com/home/page/home/vertfest>  
There will be cash and gear prizes across a broad range of divisions, as well as various activities throughout the day: VertFest Randonee Rally, Freeride Blitz, Snowshoe Race, Guided Snowshoe Tour, Clinics, Gear Petting Zoo and Demos, ...

We hope to see you there. Please pass the word along!

Be well and ski well.

Kaj Bune  
Director of Brand Development  
Outdoor Research  
Designed By Adventure [www.orgear.com](http://www.orgear.com)

# *FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....*

*NO FOOD, We are on a diet this month!*

---

## *COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...*

- > A WORD FROM BOEALPS PRESIDENT ROBERT BAUTISTA ON THE YEAR AHEAD (NO REALLY BOB... WRITE SOMETHING... SERIOUSLY... MAYBE?)*
- > THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*
- > YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*
- > THE RETURN OF "PERSPECTIVES" (IF SOMEONE ASKS NICELY...)*
- > A NEW GEAR DORK'S CORNER COLUMN, FROM DORKMEISTER DIRK???*
- > ANOTHER CONSERVATION COLUMN ??? (LEN'S ON A ROLL !!!)*
- > AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS March 19, 2007...*

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                        \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

*February Echo staff*

Editor: Richard Humbert

Contributors:

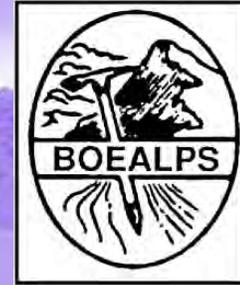
Shella Bukovac  
Jerry Baillie  
Ambrose Bittner  
Vlad Popa

*If you have any submissions—anything  
vaguely mountaineering or outdoors  
related will do—email them to us at  
editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a  
call (our numbers are  
on the front cover)  
and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

APRIL 2007



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	<a href="mailto:editor@boealps.org">editor@boealps.org</a>		Librarian	Open	

MARK IT DOWN ON YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO ATTEND :

THE BOEALPS SPRING CAMPOUT IS ON APRIL 28 !!!!

SEE DETAILS P.8

## ANOTHER EXCLUSIVE !!!

MT RAINIER  
LEAD CLIMBING RANGER  
ON RECENT  
FLOOD DAMAGES

COME HEAR AND SEE  
MIKE GAUTHIER  
AT BOEALPS  
GENERAL MEETING

### BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 5 April, 18:30

AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG  
7755 E MARGINAL WY S



# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

Well, the BCC and ICC are under way: a sure sign that spring is upon us and the climbing season is following right behind !

Of course, for many, climbing season means planning a trip to that jewel of a mountain we are so lucky to have in our backyard: Mount Rainier. This year, however, a large question mark fills my planning sheet... Extensive flood damage last November has pretty much closed off the park to all activities, and who knows when public access will again be permitted. Who knows ? Well, if anyone knows, it has to be Mike Gauthier, lead climbing ranger at Mount Rainier National Park.

This month, Mike is actually our guest speaker at our General Meeting, and his presentation on the state of the park is not to be missed. Even if you're not planning to climb the mountain this year, his status report on the damages and the recovery efforts should be of the greatest interest. If you can and wish to help out in these efforts, please see the BoeAlpS and the Community page.

Another great annual BoeAlpS tradition is also around the corner: The Spring Campout at Leavenworth, where the BCC Class of 2007 will mingle with BoeAlpS members. The club is providing the campsite and the usual campsite fare. Members are expected to provide the good times !

Richard Humbert is considering Antarctica / Patagonia as a travel destination: have a look at his invitation and contact him if interested in joining.

As far as trip reports, Mike Zalewski again submitted a great summary of a rock fest down in Joshua Tree.

As far as our "more or less regular" columns, a double shot this month !

The Gear Dork Corner is back for another installment on cams, everything you always were afraid to know !

And the Conservation Corner brings you a fresh reminder of the "Leave No Trace" principles, as the new climbing season begins.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
François

# INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
<i>April General Meeting</i> .....	p. 7
<i>Spring Campout</i> .....	p. 8
<i>Trip Invitation: Antarctica and Patagonia</i> .....	p. 9
REPORTS	
<i>A Weekend in Joshua Tree</i> .....	p. 10
COLUMNS	
<i>Gear Dork's Corner</i> .....	p. 20
<i>Conservation Corner</i> .....	p. 23
BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY	
<i>Mount Rainier Flood Damage Recovery</i> .....	p. 25
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 26
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 27
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 28



BCC 2007 - Instructor Aggie pointing students in the right direction - March 2007 (photo by F.Godcharles)

<b>April</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> ICC Lecture 2	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> BCC Lecture 5	<b>1</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> BCC Commonwealth Basin ← ICC Snow Skills
<b>8</b> → → Easter	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Board Meeting	<b>11</b> BCC Lecture 6	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> BCC Devil's Peak I ←
<b>15</b> →	<b>16</b> ICC Lecture 3	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> BCC Lecture 7	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> BCC Devil's Peak II ← ICC Leavenworth
<b>22</b> → →	<b>23</b> Echo Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> BCC Lecture 8	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> BCC Leavenworth ← BoeAlps Spring Campout
<b>29</b> →	<b>30</b> ICC Lecture 4					

**2007**

<b>May</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> BCC Lecture 9 ICC UW Rock	<b>3</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> BCC New Outing ! ← ICC Smith Rock ←
<b>6</b> → ←	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Board Meeting	<b>9</b> BCC Lecture 10	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> BCC Tatoosh ←
<b>13</b> → Mother's Day	<b>14</b> ICC Lecture 5	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> BCC Gasworks Park	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> ← BCC Nisqually ICC Squamish ←
<b>20</b> → ←	<b>21</b> Echo Deadline	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> BCC Lecture 11	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> ←
<b>27</b> ←	<b>28</b> Memorial Day	<b>29</b> ICC Lecture 6	<b>30</b> BCC Final Exam	<b>31</b>	<b>2007</b>	



BCC 2007 - Teaching the art of belaying - March 2007 (photo by F. Godcharles)

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

If you STILL have that strange feeling that you're not receiving important Boealps notices... Well, we're still working the issue with the mailing lists... Part of the problem is Boeing's increased computer security policy that now prevents unwanted spam from clogging up our work mail boxes. That's great, except that the Boeing filters now consider mailings from BoeAlpS as spam ! (are we that bad ?). Stay tuned for how to proceed if your Boeing E-Mail address is currently the one used for BoeAlpS...

...

A new welcomed addition to the BoeAlpS organization:

- Michael Klein has bravely taken on a new role within the BoeAlpS organization: that of marketing rep !!! Without revealing too much of what lies ahead, let's just say that your membership should gain value in the future. Mike is already hard at work on ideas....

...

As mentioned previously, the old BoeAlpS library has been moved to the 2-22 building, where most of BoeAlpS meetings and classes take place. This is great news, and brings welcomed accessibility to a great BoeAlpS asset. The Club, however, now needs a LIBRARIAN to put life back into our library. The library needs to be inventoried and organized, and a system put in place to allow members to take out books. Interested ? Contact Vlad Popa: vlad.popa@gmail.com

...

Someone's been shopping around: based on past usage and rental requests, Silas Wild went ahead and purchased 4 additional avalanche beacons for club members to rent out. Silas is also currently looking at replacing some of the older club tents.

This, and other equipment is available to you, BoeAlpS members !

And your input is always welcomed as far as equipment needs, equipment use, or improvements to the rental system.

If you are a user of club equipment and would like to share your views on the subject, please contact Silas Wild: silaswild@yahoo.com or drop by the next Board meeting !

Your input would be highly appreciated and will help to better serve the members' needs !

...

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

And finally, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10 April 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

...



# BoeAlps General Meeting Agenda April 5<sup>th</sup> 2007

**Guest Speaker: [Mike Gauthier](#), Mt Rainier National Park Lead Climbing Ranger**

**LOCATION: 2-22 building ground floor (if attendance is high enough we will move upstairs)**

On last November 6 and 7, Mount Rainier National Park received almost 18 inches of rainfall in 36 hours. Rivers and streams all over the park overwhelmed their channels, with floods that exceeded anything the park has experienced in its 108-year history. The National Park Service estimates that damage to roads, trails, campgrounds, and buildings will exceed \$36 million.

Dramatic pictures of the flood damage can be found on the Mount Rainier National Park website:

<http://www.nps.gov/mora/parknews/november-2006-flooding.htm>

But why surf when you can get the latest information on the flood impact and the on-going recovery efforts from one of the park's most notorious climbing rangers, Mike Gauthier !

Come to BoeAlpS General Meeting this month and find out about the state of the mountain, about road openings, and how your summer climbing will be impacted.

Recovery efforts are now underway, but will take months or years to complete. Find out from Mike how you can help by joining the army of volunteers mobilizing to rebuild trails, clean up campgrounds, and repair facilities!

About Mike Gauthier:

Mike Gauthier started backpacking in the Washington wilderness at age eleven. He began his career in the National Park Service as a volunteer backcountry ranger in Olympic National Park in 1985 and joined the climbing staff at Mount Rainier in 1990. Now, he is the supervisor and program manager of mountaineering and search and rescue operations. Mike has summited Mount Rainier over 170 times by twenty-nine different routes, during all seasons. He conducts workshops in mountain and rope rescue techniques, cold weather survival skills, backcountry snowboarding, avalanche awareness and wilderness leadership. In 1998, he was designated a Wilderness Rescue Hero by the American Red Cross and was publicly recognized as one of America's twenty-five toughest men (Men's Journal, 2004). In addition to his activities at Mount Rainier, he has led eight expeditions to Alaska, including Mount McKinley. He is an avid snowboarder, rock climber, and photographer. His photographic artwork is on permanent display in the National Park Inn in Longmire, Washington, and on the web at [www.crevasse.com](http://www.crevasse.com). Mike lives in Mount Rainier National Park.

(From "Mount Rainier - A Climbing Guide", second edition, 2005)



## Time Breakdown

6:30 – 7:00	Social Time
7:00 – 7:15	General Announcements
7:15 – 8:45	Mike Gauthier
8:45 – 9:00	Social Time
9:00	Adjourn

# BOEALPS SPRING CAMPOUT

## BOEALPS SPRING CAMPOUT

- WHEN:** April 28-29, 2007 (campsite reserved and provided for Saturday night only)
- LOCATION:** Group Site at Bridge Creek Campground, Icicle Creek Road, Leavenworth
- DIRECTIONS:** From the WEST take Highway 2 East through Monroe and then over Stevens' Pass. Take a right on Icicle River Road (at the town entrance, just before the 76 gas station) and follow road approximately 10 miles. The campground will be on the left.
- HOW:** No sign-up required, just show up !!!
- PROVIDED:** BoeAlpS will provide grilling "main dish" material (burgers, hotdogs, ...)
- WHAT TO BRING:** Your own drinks !  
...and any additional side dish, munchies, dessert you might want to indulge in before or after the main meal

**For any additional info, please contact:** Shella Bukovac, 206-655-4394, [shella.a.bukovac@boeing.com](mailto:shella.a.bukovac@boeing.com)

Yes, it's that time once again: Spring is upon us and with it, the promise of club-sponsored burgers in Leavenworth, for all BoeAlpS members at the annual spring campout with the BCC Class of 2007. Come and meet the new students and future climbers, and re-acquaint yourself with fellow instructors and climbers.

BoeAlpS will provide food for all, as well as the campsite !!! Yes, those are your membership dollars at work right there !

### General call for helping hands and volunteers:

If you'd like to help out with the organizing of the campout, make yourself known !  
And anyone who feels like putting together rock climbing outings for that weekend, or any other activities in the Leavenworth area, please contact Shella:  
Shella Bukovac, 206-655-4394, [shella.a.bukovac@boeing.com](mailto:shella.a.bukovac@boeing.com)



mmmmm..... campout..... :o))

TRIP PLANNING  
Antarctica and Patagonia  
Dec 07 or Jan 08



Torres del Paine - Chile, R. Humbert Photo

Fitzroy and Cerro Torre are even more impressive.

Antarctica and Patagonia  
Dec 07 or Jan 08

Rich Humbert is considering a trip to the tip of South America, a cruise to the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula from Ushuaia, Argentina. Hope to climb volcanic Deception Island. Also, maybe hiking up to get views of Cerro Torre and Fitzroy.

This is likely to be quite an expensive trip, possibly \$5000 - \$6000?? for the cruise and an additional \$2000?? for transportation and Patagonia. Currently in the early stages of investigation regarding feasibility of the trip. If you might be interested, contact Rich - [richhumbert@hotmail.com](mailto:richhumbert@hotmail.com).

Skill level: BCC, not planning any serious rock climbing.

## A Weekend in Joshua Tree February 1-4, 2007

Suspects: Ryan Allen, Bob Bautista, Larissa Trevett, Mike Zalewski (scribe)

I think the idea of going to Joshua Tree was started by Larissa around the beginning of January with Bob and Ryan getting recruited early on. Looking for a fourth and exhausting their other better climbing contacts, the email request eventually saw its way to me. Reluctant at first, it only took a little peer pressure, as always, and I bought my plane ticket to Las Vegas that day. You're probably wondering why the heck fly to Las Vegas when there's other airports much closer to J-Tree? Well, why the heck not, it's Vegas!

Now that the team was set, the planning emails started flying around because let's face it, it's much more fun than working. As the emails circulated, somehow the plan started to morph –

Ryan: "What about Red Rocks?"

Ryan: "How about we go to Zion and do a big wall?"

Bob and Mike: "What the...?"

Ryan: "Cold nights, 50 lb racks, hanging belays, poop tubes....okay Zion's out."

Larissa: "I just wanna go some place warm."

Everyone: "Okay Joshua Tree again."

That settled it, so the plan was to fly out to Vegas Thursday night, drive the 4-5 hours to J-Tree that night, climb Friday and Saturday, drive back to Vegas for some what-happens-there-stays-there Saturday night, hung-over climbing at Red Rocks on Sunday, fly home. Typical balls to the wall, Ryan-style climbing weekend. The following is my best guess at the events that transpired. All times are give or take 15 minutes, unless I was on my seventh Bud Light, then they could be off by an hour or two.

### Thursday, 2/1/07

- 4:00pm Arrive at Ryan's house to pick everyone up and head to Seatac for our flight on Southwest at 6pm.
- 5pm Have some time to kill, stop at airport bar; guys: 22 oz beers; girl: really bad Bloody Mary; everyone: onion rings, ultimate nachos, and hot wings.
- 6pm Hmmmm...haven't boarded yet, counter lady starting to pass out chocolate for people that can answer trivia questions. Not a good sign. Onion rings, ultimate nachos, and hot wings are starting to make their presence felt...oh crap.
- 6:30pm Finally, boarding starts. I made the mistake of committing to my seat early and take a middle seat in front of two chatty girls that talked for the ENTIRE FLIGHT saying "like" every other word. I felt as if I were in an episode of the Real World. Bob, Ryan, and Larissa stayed strong and were rewarded with extra room in the back of the plane. Note to self: don't commit early on Southwest flights.
- 8:00pm The beacon of Las Vegas, The Luxor shines its bat signal in the air as we land at McCarran airport.
- 8:30pm Finally off the plane, at the Dollar Rent-A-Car, away from the, like twins, like I'm so like happy. Also realized I forgot my helmet...first yellow light, oops.
- 8:45pm Ryan searches for our vehicle after walking around for 15 minutes trying to find someone that speaks English, finally rolling up in a Jeep Liberty. After we rolled out of the lot we later found out we could have rented a Cadillac. Ryan, you will never be forgiven for this. We could have had the Northstar System and leather seats, what were you thinking?!?!
- 9:00pm On the road.
- 9:01pm Ryan: "We need to find a mini mart, we need beer."
- 9:02pm We could have had a Cadillac.
- 9:30pm Mini mart is located. Receipt: 5 gallons of water, 18 pack of Bud Light.

- 10:00pm Back on the road outside of Vegas getting ready for the long drive to J-Tree and to find Ryan's secret free bivy spot outside the park.
- 11:10pm We have lost all normal radio stations and start the usual scan for that one 10-million watt, Top-40 station to at least get some Madonna or MC Hammer when we get stopped low on the dial at the always-on-in-the middle-of-nowhere religious channel.
- Religious channel guy: "Let's face it folks, the Christian life is like being a jet fighter pilot."
- I have no idea what that means but I think we just found our quote for the trip.
- 11:34pm, 12:48am, 1:40am  
Bathroom breaks. We also learn a new law of physics. When stopping along the road in the middle of the desert, the number of beer cans and bottles on the side of the road is inversely proportional to the desolation of the area. Who are these people that drink out here?!?! Oh yeah, it's the desert.

Friday, 2/2/07

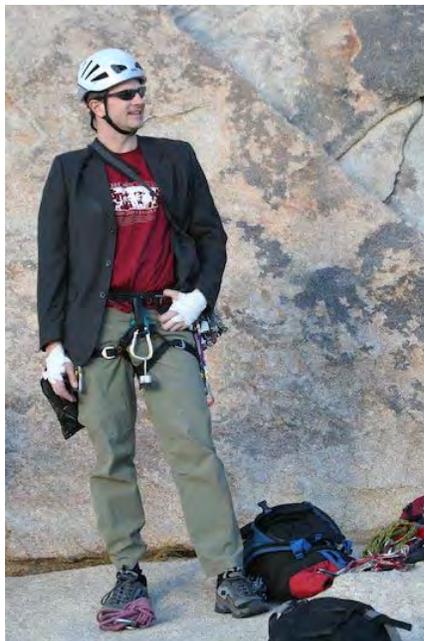
- 2:30am Woohoo, we're finally in Joshua Tree
- 2:37am Where's the entrance?
- 2:45am This can't be right. Back track from Yucca Valley to the entrance road. Full moon is out; it's like daytime, awesome.
- 3:00am We locate Ryan's secret free bivy spot outside the park. Dang, he wasn't kidding, this bivy spot was svelte, with boulder problems and everything. Hey look, more beer cans and bottles. Whoa, it's also freezing out.



**Super Secret Bivy Spot**

- 3:15am We're out of beer...another yellow light.
- 9:00am The sun is shining, ahhhh, warmth. Time to wake up, pack up the rig and head into town for some coffee, breakfast, snacks, and a chalk bag. Bob needs to get another chalk bag for some reason, one that's bigger so he can get better at bouldering.

- 9:30am Beatnik Café? Nah. Other café that I can't remember the name of for this report that also has hippies in it? Looks good...okay. Bob had the largest French toast I have ever seen. Proud. This is where Joshua Tree showed its hippie-dom. There was the 50-some year old dude in the corner with dreads talking to his buddy in the cowboy hat and Amish-style beard. Many a bare feet and flip flops. Luckily Bob purchased his sandals before the trip to fit in. The four of us definitely did not own enough hemp clothes to be in this café though.
- 10:00-11:00am  
 Yep, that's right, we stop at the local town store called Wal-Mart to stock up on snacks. It's never possible to have a good pull down session without double stuff Oreos. I also bought myself a five dollar University of Arizona hat to use in place of my helmet. Hey, at least I will look cool when I wear it backwards. The Ultimate Fighting Championship one just didn't fit me right. In and out pretty quickly and back at the car.
- 11:00am Mike: "Where's Bob?"  
 Ryan: "I think he went to get beer."  
 Ryan, Mike, Larissa: "Haaaaaaaaa, there he is."  
 ....Bob gets in the Jeep with a large case of Bud Light....  
 Bob: "Dude, I didn't know they made 36 packs." Bob saves the day yet again. Yellow light is green again.
- 11:10am Ryan's MP3 ghetto blaster finally makes its appearance with some Too Short, Larissa's favorite group now.
- 11:15am Pull up to the gear shop. 1 chalk bag, 1 pair of rock shoes, 1 roll of tape...\$124. Finally done with shopping and heading off to climb...priceless.
- 12:00pm Yes, I know we haven't climbed yet. We're on vacation, chill.
- 12:30pm Arrive at the Hidden Valley campground. There is a fork in the road, Ryan takes the right fork and remembers this is the loser campground side and quickly takes us back around to where the cool campgrounds are. What's the difference between the loser campsites and the cool campsites? Beats me. Taken, taken, taken....dang.....finally, we found an open site, right by the rock formation that has the first route we wanted to climb...score.
- 12:43pm Finally we're able sort out the gear and rack up. Somehow this still takes thirty minutes because Ryan needed to find his sportcoat. Don't ask.



**America's Next Top Model**

1:20pm Now I find out why these are the cool campsites. It's because the base of the climbs are about a two minute walk from our tents...rule! Ryan suggests we go climb one of THE Joshua Tree classics, a route called Double Cross, touted as being the world's hardest 5.7. Maybe that's why it's now rated 5.7+. Ryan really got our motivation up when he told us about how all kinds of people have died climbing it. Great, can't wait to lead...crap.

1:30pm Time to go climbing! Double Cross looks sweet. It's about as straightforward as it gets; a splitter hand crack all the way for one pitch. Ryan turned on the blaster with some Butthole Surfers while Bob and I racked up first with me in the lead on this one. Well, without getting into details it was a really fun route but not without a few tricky moves here and there. In the middle of the route to protect it you could put in about three #3's but I only had one, so running it out was the only way to go. Fortunately all the hand jams were bomber and made you forget about getting high over your last piece. Up top you then get into a little bit of a squeeze alcove to a big ledge on top with a bolt anchor. Bob followed up quickly with no issue. So that's Double Cross, the world's hardest 5.7 in a nutshell.



**Ryan in the Crack on Double Cross**

2:14pm Larissa and Ryan are next with Ryan in the lead. I decide to film with my video camera a little ways back from the rock when a couple guys walk up to get on the route next. I chat with them while Ryan climbs.

Climber guy #1: "How's it going? Nice route huh?"

Me: "Yep, lots of fun. You guys gonna climb it?"

Climber guy #1: "Yeah...are you going next?"

Me: "No, I'm done. Once those two (Ryan and Larissa) are off it, it's yours."

Climber guy #1: "Cool, thanks."

Climber guy #2: "Is that his first time leading or something?" (referring to Ryan)

Me: "No, he's pretty experienced."

Climber guy #2: "How come he's climbing with a #5?"

Way to promote your climbing cred Ryan.

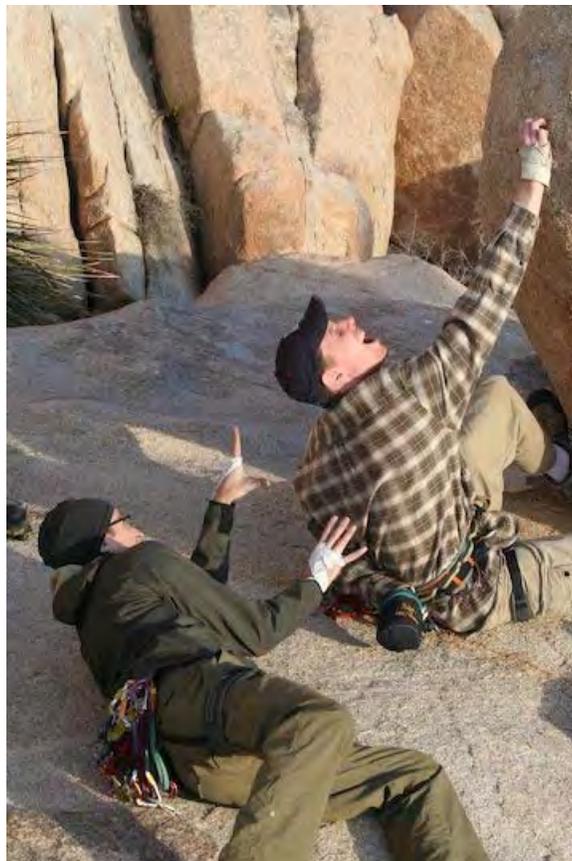
2:50pm Finished with Double Cross and everyone survived the world's hardest 5.7. Chest beating all around.

3:00pm Next up, some random bolted route to the right of Double Cross that Ryan says is 5.9. It looks sort of hard but doable. Bob racks up to lead.



**Larissa on the Sharp End of the Mystery 5.9**

4:18pm I'll be succinct on this one. It was another fun route and everyone made it up fine. Ryan dressed up for his ascent with the sportcoat and we even talked Larissa into leading it and she sent it in style.



**A little "Bouldering" Break**

- 4:32pm Time for one more before it gets dark? We all head over to another Ryan recommendation called The Flake. It's a 2 pitch 5.8 that begins with a 5.6 bar fight chimney, into a sweet 5.8 hand crack, and finishing on 5.8 slab with what looks to be pretty run out bolts. I opt out because there's no way to get up that before it gets dark. Ryan and Bob are optimistic and rack up quickly and put on the head lamps. Classic makings of an epic in J-Tree.
- 4:40pm Ryan leads the first pitch and starts making all kinds of gorilla noises in the chimney and finishes with a stylish porpoise and loud yell on the ledge. Got it all on tape, it's a show for sure and may find its way on YouTube some day, I'll keep you posted. After regaining his composure and completely losing his race with the sunlight, Ryan starts off on The Flake and flies up it only to get shut down by the slab above.
- Ryan: "Guys, I don't know about this. The next bolt is like 20 feet up."
- 5:25pm It's now twilight by the way, the sun won, climb's over. Ryan makes an anchor and belays Bob up so he can clean and rap down. The cordelette is still there as a display of the shame for all to see.
- 6:15pm All back at camp for a few brewskis and hit the town for some dinner.



**Beautiful Night in J-Tree**

- 7:05pm We decided on a local Mexican restaurant in Yucca Valley. Good place with a Mariachi band. The band dudes had a long, involved conversation when choosing a song to play for us. I think two of them were talking the third out of playing La Bamba. There was some additional entertainment during the meal when Ryan picked up our married waitress with the skills he learned in his new pick-up artist book, which included having her explain how fried ice cream worked. Bob, myself, and even Larissa are now believers and are in the queue to borrow the book next.
- 8:34pm Four combo plates and eight Cadillac margaritas later it's time to head out.
- 10:13pm Early night, hit the sack. Dang it gets cold in the desert.
- 8:00am Same as the day before. Wake up to warm sun. Time to brew some coffee otherwise Ryan and Bob are gonna be pissed.

- 8:10am Larissa gets her stove, the one and only task she had for the entire trip. However, she forgot one of the most important rules when you assume that responsibility, and that is to have a pot that completes the cooking package. Chalk up another yellow light. Luckily the nice English couple next to us has three pots and lets us borrow one. Ryan and Bob are saved.
- 9:45am Yep, you guessed it, still haven't gone climbing yet. Like I said....vacation, and we just started to get good again with the hackey sack.
- 10:36am RV drives by with a dude surfing on the roof. Yes, cool campsite side indeed. Everyone cheers for RV surfer dude as he makes the circuit.
- 10:55am Pack up and head to a different area. Again we follow Ryan's guidance for ideas since he's the group elder, which earned him the nickname of OMR from Larissa, which stands for Old Man Ryan, which soon just morphed from the acronym OMR to the name Omar...and that's how that works.
- 11:22am We arrive at the base of another couple of J-Tree classics, Sail Away and Wild Wind, 5.8 and 5.9 crack routes respectively. However, the routes were currently suffering death by top rope when we got there but we decided to wait anyway because we couldn't find any other options nearby.



**Sail Away on the Right, Wild Wind on the Left**

- 11:42am The routes are finally free. I get the lead on Sail Away and Bob takes the lead on Wild Wind. Both climbs rocked; a couple of perfect splitter cracks again, definitely worthy of classic status. Consensus was that Sail Away felt like the harder of the two despite having the lower grade.
- 12:10pm A group of three; two guys and one girl, arrive at the base of the routes as we are finishing up with our own round robin of top ropes to speed things up for all of us to get a turn on each line. Again, another group of really nice people; haven't met a mean person in J-Tree yet. Our two groups fit in real nice together because they shared our views on making fun of and harassing our fellow climbing partners.

Local Girl: "Haha, I love how you guys yell at each other; I always do the same thing to my climbing partners. I always have to be careful when I go back to work and not tell my coworkers to 'Suck it up b%#@\$! I don't care if you are f&#\$ing run out 35 feet on .10b slab!'"

She won the award for our favorite local.

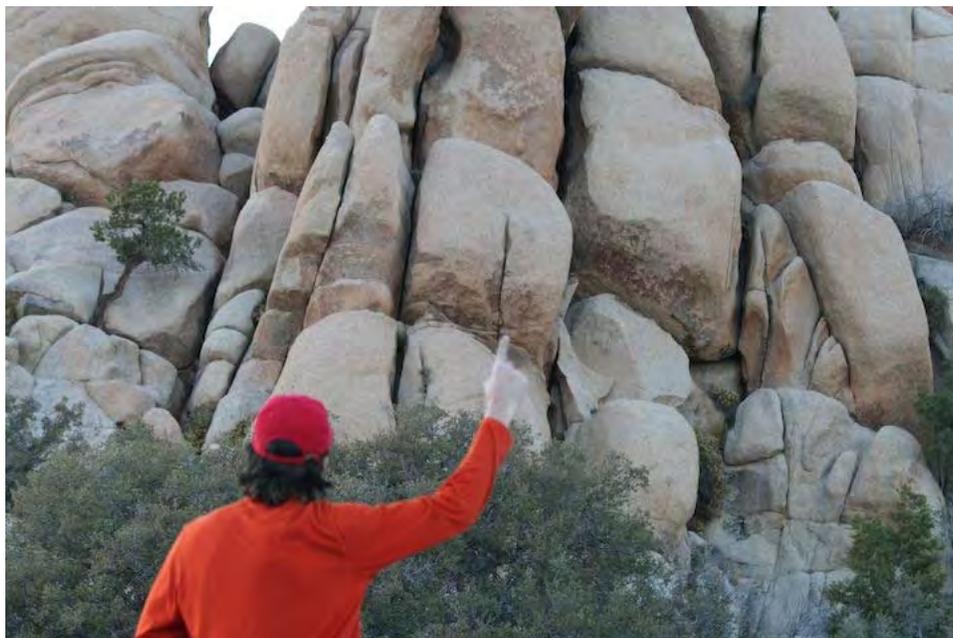
- 2:12pm Time to move on. Larissa wanted a sunny route so that's what we tried to search out. Ryan pulled out the guidebook and found a route that was a .10b crack rated five stars called Illusion Dweller. Ryan's head almost exploded when he saw that because he didn't think the book gave five star ratings, so it must be good. Of course we had to go check it out.
- 2:31pm Upon closer inspection there was a bit of a chasm issue to find our way down in to get to this route. This took about twenty minutes of sketchy downclimbing and bushwacking, which wasn't our idea of a typical J-Tree approach; we could have done that crap at home. We obviously didn't take the right way, but whatever.
- 2:57pm In the chasm, we catch first site of the unbelievably long, chalk outlined, right slanting crack. Wow, definitely looks five-star to me, but also looks pretty savage. I liken it to Ryan's description of the Zip up at Squamish: "an ominous looking crack that should have lightening bolts shooting all around it." Bob and Ryan investigate. I can tell from their reactions that this one may be a stretch.
- 3:12pm Two cute Aussie girls saunter up to us and ask if we were going to climb it. Larissa and I quickly acknowledge that we have no intentions of trying it because we are a couple of n00bs. Bob and Ryan receive more route beta as the two girls have climbed it a few times before. Their description was that the bottom crack is easy at around 5.8 or 5.9, but thin, then up towards the top the crack peters out, which also of course, is where the unprotectable .10b crux is. We all cringe. She described in detail how it scares the hell out of her too. She offers Bob and Ryan first dibs since we were there first. Bob and Ryan look at each other and quickly decide the best decision is to walk away from this one and not risk all the crying that would inevitably be displayed while on route with two cute girls as the audience. The nice thing about this conversation is that they did give us a recommendation of a great 2 pitch, 5.9 route on the other side of the formation that actually goes to the top. So on we went as daylight was burning.
- 3:45pm Arrive at the base of the recommended route we think, called Western Saga. We looked up and could make out what we thought was the roof crack they described but we couldn't really make out where the first pitch started. But at this time of day who cares, we need to go now or we don't go at all because there's only about an hour and a half of daylight left.
- 3:50pm Locked and loaded. Bob and I partner up while Larissa and Ryan are together for this one. Bob takes the first pitch as Ryan turns on the blaster...and wouldn't you know it, Bob's favorite Lil Wyte track plays (can't really describe this one here because every other word in that song would be censored).
- 4:10pm Bob finishes the first pitch, which turns out to be quite short with one tricky, barely protectable traverse move. I quickly make it up to Bob's belay and look up above at the second pitch, which is obviously the 5.9 crack. It looks real nice, but real scary. I ponder whether or not I'm up to it and think out loud, "should I or shouldn't I, should I or shouldn't I?" Bob quickly gives the old go-big-or-go-home mantra and that makes my decision to go for it; that and I can't say no to peer pressure...that's how I came on this trip in the first place for crying out loud.
- 4:13pm Trying not to soil my pants as I'm all four in the crack with no pro in yet and don't really feel like taking a factor two fall on Bob's two-piece anchor.
- 4:13:05pm Place the #2, aka Golden Boy. Okay now we're in business, soiled pants averted...at least until the roof section.
- 4:16pm Arrive at the roof. I decide to play it conservative and put two pieces in to protect my giant Polish frame from a nice whipper. Luck would have it; the yellow and gray Aliens racked on the same biner fit perfectly and created a pre-made, equalized anchor for me. According to the girls' beta there was a left foot hold that is the key to pulling the roof. I looked around and sure enough there it was. Just needed to get the hand and foot jams in and voila, got the foothold...woohoo, tons o' fun.
- 4:22pm I reach the twenty foot long 5.4 lieback section the girls also mentioned that is supposed to lead to the top. This thing rocks. Seriously, God needs to create a route that is 16 pitches of continuous 5.4 lieback, I would never climb anything else. I need to bring this idea up with him sometime, but I guess I first need to become a jet fighter pilot like the radio guy said.
- 4:25pm I reach the top and set up the belay. What a view!
- 4:40pm Bob arrives, says I'm a retard because I run things out too much. Route time – 50 minutes with 30 minutes of daylight to spare...golden!

- 4:45pm Ryan reaches the top. I inform him of the easy pinch point he can sling for his belay. Instead he opts to construct some Franken-anchor with a nut and two cams all clove hitched together with the rope. It was definitely some fine engineering but it wasn't well thought out and it left him tied short to the anchor with an uncomfortable belay stance sandwiched next to the rocks when there was about a twenty square foot flat area that went unused. Yes folks, you learn from the best in the ICC.
- 5:05pm Larissa joins us at the top to round out the group and we all head down the nice easy slab walk-off back to the packs.
- 5:30pm Back at the car to finish off the thirty-sixer of Bud to toast a good outing and head on back to Vegas.



**I Love Bud Light**

- 5:43pm On the drive out we see a rock that Ryan pointed out looks like a butt.



**Bob Pointing Out Butt Rock**

6:02pm Get suggestion from old, scary gas station man to take the desert roads back to Vegas and not the highways. He laughed at us for taking the highways on the way down. Old, scary gas station man was right; it knocked our trip down to about three and half hours. The roads are also part of old Route 66, which was pretty cool.

6:48pm Dark out, driving in the middle of nowhere, suddenly pass a mysterious, abandoned shack with a psychedelic light display shining all over it.

Ryan: “What the f\$%# is that!? WHAT THE F%\$# IS THAT?!?!”

Expertly maneuvered u-turn at 75 miles an hour to head back and see what the deal is. Ryan is nuts, he gets out of the car and heads into the abandoned shack. Bob, Larissa, and I discuss this is how people die in horror movies. We then see a lone truck parked about 100 feet from the shack and the driver door opens. Great, were dead, we’re all going to meet our maker in the middle of the California desert. Then Ryan goes over to talk to the mysterious person, a piece of paper changes hands and Ryan is back in the car. He informs us her name is Helen and apparently she lives in her truck and travels around putting on these random light shows in random places just for the fun of it. That’s what she does, pretty cool. The piece of paper had her website on it. It’s called [www.popligh.net](http://www.popligh.net), check it out. I think I’d like to hire Helen’s lightshow for a party at my house some time.

9:32pm and rest of trip

Arrive back in Vegas Saturday night for some drinking, gambling, and various other debaucheries that ended up having us sleeping in and not making it to Red Rocks the next day. Instead our Sunday consisted of eating breakfast at the Golden Nugget and checking out the shark tank water slide, then heading to the strip to ride the New York, New York roller coaster, finishing off with nickel slots for free drinks and the amazing \$30 buffet at the Bellagio.

Another great weekend rock trip down south. As for Joshua Tree, it is highly recommended. You could spend a whole lifetime there and never climb everything. It mostly consists of routes one pitch in length on some of the most textured granite I’ve ever been on. I’ve only been there this one time so far, but every group of people we met was incredibly nice and laid back, and I hope to head back soon with my other fighter jet pilot friends.



**End of a Great Weekend (left to right, Ryan (Omar), Larissa, Bob, and Mike)**

# The Gear Dork's Corner

by Robert Fisher, Gear Dork

Dear Geardork,

I'm starting to lead some easier trad climbs and I always have to borrow my friend's rack. I already have a set of nuts, and I want to buy some cams, but I don't know what to get. Can you help me?

Thank you

Clueless, Awaiting Mentorship Support

Well CAMS, I own and use a lot of gear. Today I would like to talk to you about Cams, also known by their original name "Spring Loaded Camming Devices" or SLCD's. No one ever calls them SLCD's or "Spring Loaded Camming Devices" anymore, so let's forget about that.

What to buy? First and foremost, buy what you like. Everyone has an opinion on these things. Let me help sort it out a bit.

## Cams - A very short history

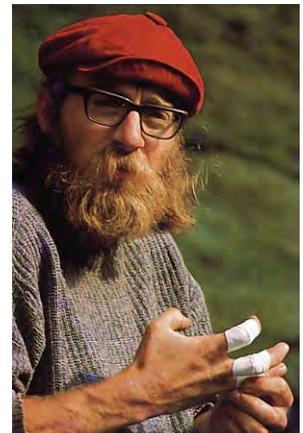
These little devices weren't quite invented, but were perfected to the items we know and love today by a man named Ray Jardine. He is a rocket scientist. He is also the author of a few books on ultralight backpacking. Ray Jardine is fricken rad.

His first units were scary conglomerations of strap iron and aluminum lobes with no trigger. This revolutionary new gear was top-secret, and as such, had a codename. Whenever out for a test at the crag, Ray and his partners would refer to the cams as "friends".



After developing a final design, Ray teamed up with Mark Vallance in the UK to start producing Friends in quantity.

Cams revolutionized climbing. Climbs that were very difficult became easier with a simple squeeze of the trigger. Most modern climbers couldn't imagine a vertical world without Ray Jardine's Friends.



## Modern Cams

Everyone has an opinion, especially when it comes to gear. If you were to ask 10 climbers what was best, you would get 12 different answers. These are my observations and opinions. Take them how you will.

### Single Stem Cams:

- Black Diamond C4 (\$60-\$110)
  - Wild Country Tech Friend (\$55-\$110)
  - Trango Flex Cam (\$50)
  - Rock Empire Durango (\$35-\$40)
- (In the picture, in order)



Single stem cams are a versatile part of any climber's rack. Some models can be a bit fiddly to place because of flexible stems.

My recommendation:

Black Diamond C4's have the largest expansion range of all regular cams. They feel great in the hand and the action is silky smooth. A recent redesign added thumbloops for better control when placing and reduced weight of the cams.

The others:

My second recommendation would go to Wild Country. They are great cams, but they do not have any advantage over BD with the expanded range of the C4's. Trango Flex Cams and Rock Empire Durangos are the same cam. The cam springs are a bit weak and the stems are too floppy. Compared to other cams they feel cheap.

Dual Stem Cams:

Metolius FCU (Rangefinder) (\$55-\$63)  
DMM 4CU/3CU (\$35-\$45)  
Rock Empire Robots (\$35-\$40), Pulsar (\$35-\$50)  
(In the picture, in order)



Dual stem cams give the user a bit more control over the placement. Controlling the head of the cam from two points instead of one gives more leverage and more accurate placement.

One downside to dual stem cams – placing them in shallow vertical cracks can lever out the upper cams. This is not a deal-breaker, only a consideration when placing.

My Recommendation:

Metolius FCU - The only company that rivals Black Diamond for overall quality is Metolius. The latest incarnation of Metolius' cams is the lightest fully-rated units available. They recently added a series of dots to the side of the cam to show a good, marginal, and bad placement. These are great for beginners.

The others:

My second recommendation would be DMM. I currently own two sets and love them. They are cheap, light, and place very well. Last place goes to the Robot Cams. The trigger is too narrow in most sizes.

Small cams:

Metolius TCU (\$50)  
CCH Aliens (\$60)  
Wild Country Zeros (\$55)  
Black Diamond C3's (\$70)  
(In the picture, in order)



Small cams are great late additions to a rack. Once you have a set of nuts and the normal cams in hand sizes, you might want to think about adding some fingertip sized cams to the mix.

My Recommendation:

Wild Country Zeros - I would have recommended CCH Aliens, but after a recent quality control problem, it's been difficult to find Aliens. Zeros are a good second choice. I find that a lot of my small cam placements occur in shallow cracks where a dual stem cam (BD C3 or Metolius TCU) could lever out. The super-flexible stem can make them tricky to place in some instances.

Odd Cams:

Omega Pacific Link Cam (\$95)

Trango Max Cam (\$60)

Metolius Supercam (\$60)

(In the picture, in order)



These tricky cams should be considered a supplement to a full rack. The extended expansion range could allow you to take fewer pieces on a difficult alpine climb, reducing the overall weight of the rack.

Wild Country Forged Friend (\$37-\$45)

Forged Friends have a single stem made out of solid aluminum. You should not place them where the stem is levered over an edge. The stem could break. You can avoid this by rigging the cam with a bit of perlon.

Now you know a bit about the available gear, but what size should you get?

You want to start with the hand sizes, in BD, this would be #0.5-#2 or so. After that, buy cams based on what you are climbing. If you find yourself in a lot of finger cracks, buy some smaller sizes. If you are wide crack "sick-o" look at buying some bigger sizes. Keep going until you feel you are done.

Carry on.



# CONSERVATION CORNER



## Leave No Trace

- A word from Elizabeth Riggs

Sure we all know the 10 essentials but do you know the seven principles of Leave No Trace? Leave No Trace?!? you might ask. What's to that? It's all common sense right, don't litter, don't cut switchbacks etc. I've got that down!

There are nearly 6 million people in the state of Washington. Even if a fraction of those people make it into the backcountry, all those humans can make a huge impact. The principles of leave no trace may seem like common sense, but there is always something we can do, even if it's a little step, to lessen our impact on the wilderness. Imagine if everyone heading outdoors took just one small step. It all adds up!

Here are the seven steps of Leave No Trace. See [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org) for more information.

### Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups. Split larger parties into groups of 4-6.
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.

### Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.
- Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- In popular areas:
  - Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
  - Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.
  - Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.
- In pristine areas:
  - Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
  - Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.



# CONSERVATION CORNER



## Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.

## Leave What You Find

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.

## Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

## Respect Wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.

## Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises

# BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY

---

Expanding on the theme of this month's General Meeting, please consider helping out in the recovery efforts at Mount Rainier National Park.

Our beloved Mount Rainier is suffering badly from last November's floods. Many of the past familiar sites have simply vanished. Many of the roads are gone, rendering access to certain areas impossible for many years to come.

Times like these offer a good opportunity to give back to a National Park that has welcomed us on so many of our outdoor adventures. Please visit the Mount Rainier National Park for more info:

<http://www.nps.gov/mora/parknews/november-2006-flooding.htm>

Here's an excerpt:

"Many individuals and groups have contacted Mount Rainier National Park to ask how they can help restore the park's roads, trails, campgrounds, fire lookouts, and other facilities damaged by the winter storms.

The park already has an active volunteer program, which makes use of almost a thousand people every year to help build, maintain, and patrol trails; staff visitor centers; complete maintenance and revegetation projects; and accomplish many other tasks that would not be possible otherwise. We protect the natural and cultural resources of Mount Rainier more effectively, and serve its visitors better, with the help of volunteers. To learn more, visit the park's Volunteer in Parks page.

Many more volunteers will be needed to help the park recover from storm damage. Mount Rainier National Park has named the Student Conservation Association (SCA), a nationwide volunteer conservation organization, to direct its volunteer flood recovery efforts. SCA will work with park officials to assess backcountry damage, devise a restoration strategy, and organize a multi-year volunteer work plan to engage trail coalitions, friends groups, and individual volunteers.

To learn more about how you can participate in flood recovery efforts, or to put your name on a mailing list to receive further information, visit the Student Conservation Association's Mount Rainier flood recovery page:

[http://www.thesca.org/Mt\\_Rainier\\_Recovery/](http://www.thesca.org/Mt_Rainier_Recovery/)

In addition to coordinating volunteers, the SCA will also assist Mount Rainier National Park with fundraising efforts directed toward flood recovery, in partnership with Washington's National Park Fund (WNPF). For more information about how to contribute financially, visit WNPF's web site:

<http://home.nps.gov/applications/redirect/?sUrl=http://www.nps.gov/cgi-bin/intercept2?http://www.wnpf.org/>



Map of Mount Rainier National Park showing areas of significant damage caused by the November 2006 flood

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

" Suddenly our eyes caught a glint of snow through the clouds; and gradually, very gradually, in the course of two hours or so, visions of great mountainsides and glaciers and ridges, now here, now there, forms invisible for the most part to the naked eye or indistinguishable from the clouds themselves, appeared through the floating rifts and had meaning for us - one whole clear meaning pieced from these fragments, for we had seen a whole mountain range, little by little, the lesser to the greater until, incredibly higher in the sky than imagination had ventured to dream, the top of Everest itself appeared. "

- George L. Mallory, in a letter to his wife Ruth, June 1921,  
First British expedition to Everest

---

## COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...

- THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS
- YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)
- ANOTHER CONSERVATION COLUMN ???
- ANOTHER GEAR DORK'S CORNER ???
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...

DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 23 APRIL 2007...

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                      \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

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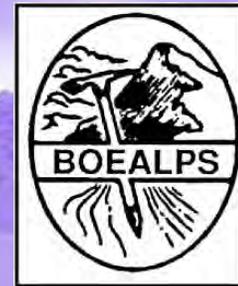
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*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at [editor@boealps.org](mailto:editor@boealps.org), or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

MAY 2007



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5 WOMEN,  
WILDERNESS,  
MOUNTAINS,  
AND...  
COUNTLESS GOATS !!!

COME RELIVE  
AN EPIC ADVENTURE:

THE PTARMIGAN TRAVERSE  
AT BOEALPS  
GENERAL MEETING

BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING  
Thursday, 3 May, 18:30  
AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG  
7755 E MARGINAL WY S



# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

Bratwurst anyone ? Well, not for me... I've had my fill of sausages and burgers thank you... Two weekends at Leavenworth in a row, first with the ICC, then for the club campout, have got my stomach burping in German. But, no worries, this edition of the Echo has been fully translated back into die englische sprache. Almost.

For a change of scenery, drop by the May General Meeting at ye olde faithful Building 2-22 for tall tales of The Ptarmigan Traverse from supreme Boealperettes Kathy and Patty and friends. This will be a good opportunity to gather information in preparation for your own traverse.

Richard Humbert is considering Antarctica / Patagonia as a travel destination: have a look at his invitation and contact him if interested in joining.

We have a trip report this month from Oscar Montoya, who tackled the Colchuk glacier in the hope of carving some turns with his snowboard, but ended up slightly humbled by the sheer ice. Or were his climbing partners just too darn "sexy" ? Find out in these pages...

The Gear Dork Corner is this month focusing on how to lighten up on tents... if you've got money to invest ! The technology is out there, but is your wallet ?

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
François

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
May General Meeting.....	p. 7
Trip Invitation: Antarctica and Patagonia.....	p. 8
REPORTS	
Climbing ..... not, skiing near Colchuck Lake.....	p. 9
COLUMNS	
Gear Dork's Corner.....	p. 15
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 17
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 18
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 19

<b>May</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> BCC Lecture 9 ICC UW Rock	<b>3</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> BCC New Outing ! ← ICC Smith Rock ←
<b>6</b> → ←	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Board Meeting	<b>9</b> BCC Lecture 10	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> BCC Tatoosh ←
<b>13</b> → Mother's Day	<b>14</b> ICC Lecture 5	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> BCC Gasworks Park	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> ← BCC Nisqually ICC Squamish ←
<b>20</b> → ←	<b>21</b> Echo Deadline	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> BCC Lecture 11	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> ←
<b>27</b> ←	<b>28</b> Memorial Day	<b>29</b> ICC Lecture 6	<b>30</b> BCC Final Exam	<b>31</b>	<b>2007</b>	



High Camp, BCC Snow Outing, Mount Ellinor-Washington Traverse (April 15, 2007) (photo by C. Nelson)



Basic Class Team Platinum (Rich Humbert) climbing Lundin Peak (photo by C. Mencke)

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June						1	2 BCC Grad. Climb / Trail Maint. ←
	3 →	4	5	6 Gen. Meeting / Bag-It night	7	8	9 BCC Grad. Climb / Trail Maint. ←
	10 →	11	12 Board Meeting	13 BCC Graduation Night	14	15	16
	17 Father's Day	18 ICC Lecture 7	19	20	21	22	23 ICC Alpine 2 ←
	24 →	25 Echo Deadline  BRC Lecture 1	26	27	28	29	30 BRC Leavenworth

2007

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **CHIEF INSTRUCTOR WANTED !!!**

Regrettably, at the April Boealps board meeting Jerry Baillie, our long time BCC chief instructor, informed the board that he has decided to step down next year. Jerry has agreed to help prepare the person attempting to fill his shoes. In order to ensure we have a smooth transition we need to identify candidates for the chief instructor position as soon as possible. If you are interested in the chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified. According to Jerry, the position is much more dependent upon organizational and personality skills, rather than actual climbing skills; so please don't feel that you have to be the best or most experienced climber to be a serious candidate.

...

## **NEW CLUB LIBRARIAN**

Another brave soul has answered our call to duty and stepped up to become the BoeAlpS librarian: Matt Wetzel. Matt, who is currently enrolled in the BCC, will have the initial task of taking inventory of the recently moved library. Once this initial step is done, members should be able to take out guide books, travel books, and mountain adventure narratives...

As mentioned previously, the old BoeAlpS library has been moved to the 2-22 building, where most of BoeAlpS meetings and classes take place. This is great news, and brings welcomed accessibility to a great BoeAlpS asset.

...

## **THE ECHO ARCHIVES**

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin ([micah.nolin@boeing.com](mailto:micah.nolin@boeing.com))

...

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

And finally, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8 May 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

...



# BoeAlps General Meeting Agenda May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007

**Guest Speaker:** [Kathy Hasegawa, Patty Michaud, Vera Trainer, Carol Ray, ...](#)

**LOCATION:** 2-22 building ground floor (if attendance is high enough we will move upstairs)

## **THE PTARMIGAN TRAVERSE: 5 WOMEN, COUNTLESS GOATS**

BEAUTIFUL VISTAS, BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, BEAUTIFUL WEATHER. WHAT MORE COULD YOU ASK FOR IN A BOEALPS PRESENTATION?

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE SHARE SLIDES OF OUR 2003 PTARMIGAN ADVENTURE. IF YOU'RE PLANNING A TRIP THIS SUMMER, WE'LL GIVE YOU ALL THE SUPPORT AND BETA WE CAN RECALL.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



### Time Breakdown

6:30 – 7:00	Social Time
7:00 – 7:15	General Announcements
7:15 – 7:30	Ptarmigan Ridge DVD
7:30 – 8:30	The Ptarmigan Traverse
8:30 – 9:00	Social Time
9:00	Adjourn

TRIP PLANNING  
Antarctica and Patagonia  
Dec 07 or Jan 08



Torres del Paine - Chile, R. Humbert Photo

Fitzroy and Cerro Torre are even more impressive.

Antarctica and Patagonia  
Dec 07 or Jan 08

Rich Humbert is considering a trip to the tip of South America, a cruise to the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula from Ushuaia, Argentina. Hope to climb volcanic Deception Island. Also, maybe hiking up to get views of Cerro Torre and Fitzroy.

This is likely to be quite an expensive trip, possibly \$5000 - \$6000?? for the cruise and an additional \$2000?? for transportation and Patagonia. Currently in the early stages of investigation regarding feasibility of the trip. If you might be interested, contact Rich - [richhumbert@hotmail.com](mailto:richhumbert@hotmail.com).

Skill level: BCC, not planning any serious rock climbing.

# Climbing ..... not, skiing near Colchuck Lake

By: Oscar Montoya

Micah Nolin, Chris Meder and I decided to climb Colchuck on the weekend of Jan 27<sup>th</sup>. The forecast called for sunny days with barely a cloud in sight. This was perfect weather for some climbing. The plan was to park near the Bridge Creek Canyon near Leavenworth, and then walk to Colchuck lake located about 7 miles away. Since the road is covered with snow we figured that bringing the skis (in my case a snowboard) up to the trail head would save us some time on the way down since we could just ski the 3.5 miles from the trailhead to the car.



Colchuck (right) and Dragontail (left) with Colchuck Glacier in between

By Friday night (I am Saturday for me) everything was ready. All that there was to do was get as much sleep as possible. By 9am we parked the car and were getting ready for the long walk up to the lake. After listening to Micah's "I am too sexy for my shirt" song, I knew I was pumped for some climbing. As we started our long journey we noticed that all our backpacks were not as big as they normally should be. Something was missing.... 100 ft later on the trail we realized we had no rope!!! What a bunch of noobs.



Is this man too sexy for his shirt?

Any other group would have taken this as a sign of bad luck, not us. We decided to turn the trip from a climbing trip, to a skiing trip. Instead of climbing the NE couloir of Colchuck, we would climb to the top of the Colchuck glacier and ski down its 30 to 40 degree slope. After getting rid of our harness, cams, ice screws, and other unnecessary climbing gear we were back on the road to the trailhead.

Micah and Chris used their skis to move over the snow. I decided to use my snowboard as a sled. I placed my snowshoes on top of it and dragged it behind me.



Micah and I ready to hit the trail

By noon we were at the trailhead eating lunch and getting ready to go into the woods for another 3.5 miles of trudging with a full backpack. Micah and Chris used their skins for the trail. I had to switch my setup so that instead of dragging my snowboard, I was going to carry the snowboard attached to my backpack. I managed to use a couple of slings to get a decent system on my backpack. Chris and Micah looked in disbelief thanking themselves for not being snowboarders.



Bridge Crossing

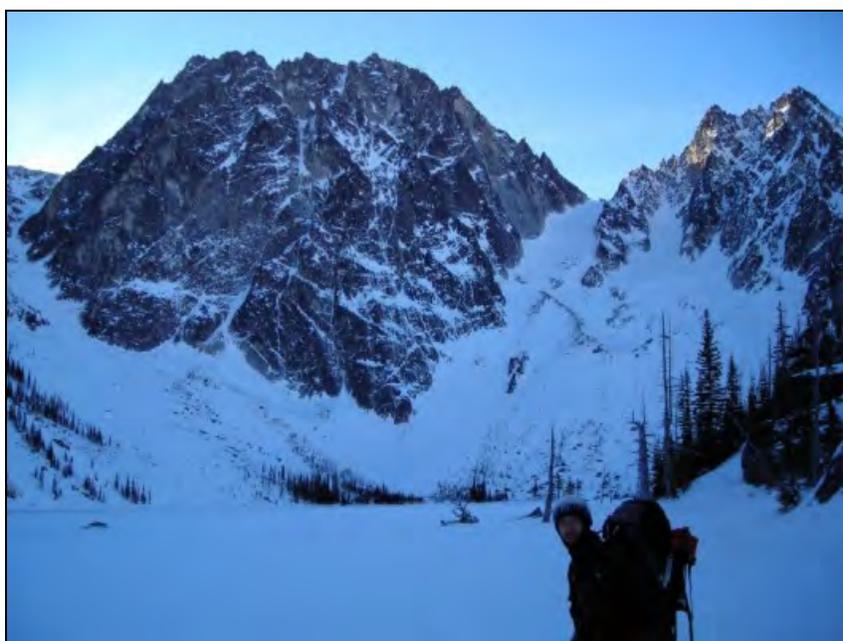
For the next four hours Micah and Chris used their skins on the trail. The trail was not in a very good condition for skis since there were some fallen trees that made ski travel not as enjoyable. Fortunately for me, I had my trusty snowshoes and had very little problem moving along the trail. The last mile of the approach was going to be the steepest part of the first day. We slowed down on this part since it got steeper and steeper. At 5:30 pm we had to setup camp 100 feet below the lake.

Micah and Chris brought a tent to sleep in, while I had a bivy sack to sleep in. I was going to have a lonely night in the woods. It was by this time that it really hit us that camping in 20 degree (probably less by next morning) weather is not pleasant no matter how “warm” or sunny the day is going to be. Maybe instead of skiing Colchuck, we could have come up with a different plan that had involved beer at Gustav’s and a room that is heated! Unfortunately it was already too late to change our plan, so instead we had to enjoy our company, in 20 degree weather, far from anywhere, being the only ones in the area.



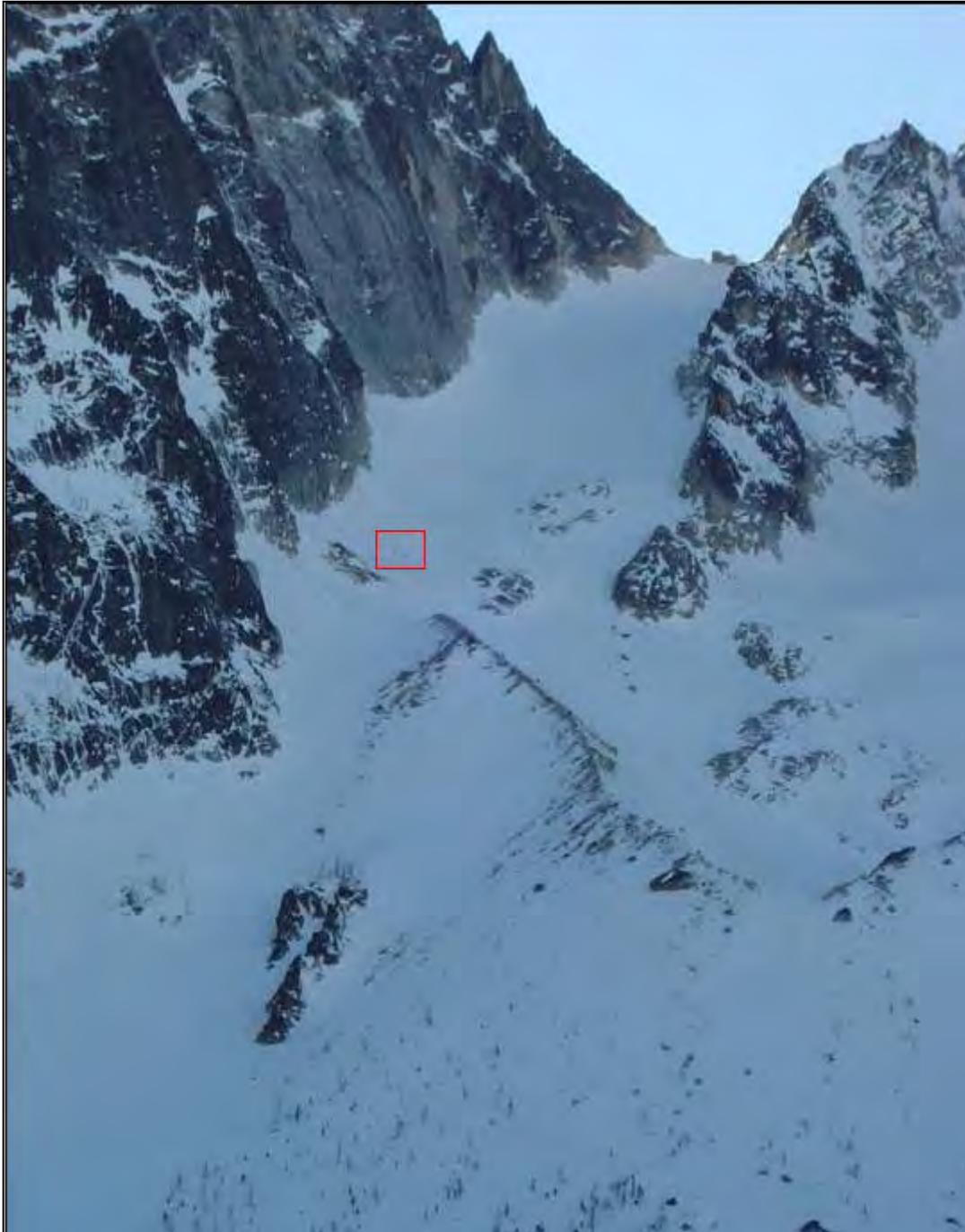
Base Camp

Since this trip was about chilling and not really pushing ourselves so hard to make a climb, we woke up around 7:30 am. By 9am we were ready to go up to the lake and up Colchuck glacier. Micah was going to try to keep up with us as much as possible since his he was having trouble with his skis.



Chris crossing the lake

At around 9:40 am we had crossed the frozen Colchuck lake and were going up the lower snowfield of Colchuck Glacier. I started using my snowshoes to go up while Chris used his skis with crampons to hike up. I was carrying my snowboard attached to my backpack. After no more that 200 to 300 feet up, we decided to switch to a boot and crampon system. I decided that in order to reduce my weight on the snow, I would drag my snowboard behind me while I climbed with crampons and ice tools. Once we reached the bottom of the glacier, we setup our avy beacons just in case something went horribly wrong even if the avalanche danger was low.



Chris and I (two dots in red box) moving slowly up Colchuck Glacier (Thanks to Micah for the picture)

As we were climbing up the glacier we noticed that the bottom half was covered by some crusty snow. However as we moved to the top half, the snow turned to 40 degree ice. Chris, being the hard man that he is, was climbing with his ice ax and his skipole. This proved not to be the best arrangement since the ski pole could hardly be used for anything, and the ice ax was not sharp enough to penetrate the ice to a good safe position. On the other hand I was using ice tools which proved very beneficial in both terms of speed and safety. After 25 feet or so I gave Chris my sharpest ice tool in exchange for his ski pole, and pretty soon he was looking like a pro with one ice ax, one ice tool, crampons, and his skis attached to his backpack.



Colchuck glacier (left) and Dragontail's Serpentine Arete 5.8 and Bovine Route 5.10c (Right)

We arrived to the top of the col at 12:25pm. After eating a little bit we started heading down the glacier. We opted to down climb half of the glacier because we did not feel like skiing in 40 degree ice. If one of us had fallen skiing in that part of the glacier, we would not have been able to self-arrest and ended up someplace near the bottom of the glacier. After down climbing the icy section of the glacier, we skied down to the lake and then continued on to base camp where a happy Micah was resting. It took a full hour to down climb the top half of the glacier, ski the bottom half, and travel to base camp.



Chris posing at the top of the Glacier

We cleaned up the camp and started our way down to the trailhead. Micah and I walked off most of the trail, while Chris showed off his amazing skill of skiing between the trees to the trail head. By the time we had arrived to the trailhead it was already dark. We still had 3.5 miles of skiing on the road to do, in order to get to the car. We did those 3.5 miles in the dark, on icy snow, with headlamps, with fog and with a drop on one side of the road. That has to be the scariest bunny slope run I have ever done.

We arrived at the car at 6:40 pm tired and ready for some good burgers which we had at Gustav's. Even though we didn't climb any technical terrain, I was pretty tired from the whole trip. The skiing was not necessarily good and I would recommend doing it in the spring when the snow is a little bit mushier. As for some of mountains in the area, Colchuck looked like it had a lot of good snow and ice in its couloirs, while Dragontail looked a little thin in sections of the triple couloir route.

# The Gear Dork's Corner

by Dirk Visser, Gear Dork in training...

It's that time of the year again when the rain slacks to just every other day and even the least hardcore of us get that itch to head for the mountains. And if you're like me, a few choice words of the four letter variety get muttered when pulling out that monster of a 9 pound, 2 person mountain tent. Does it really need 5 poles?

There has to be something better!

It will cost you some coin, but there is something better. Single wall tents have made major strides in recent years. Better materials and new construction methods have yielded some very strong and fairly light weight single wall tents.

A few definitions, just to save time (the Gear Dork's dictionary?.....hmmm):

**Double wall tent:** Traditional tent body (walls/canopy and floor all in one unit) with poles attaching to the tent body and a rain fly draping over the poles. Tent body walls are generally thin nylon or mesh netting to aid ventilation. The rain fly is thick, coated nylon or a PTFE or gore-tex type laminate to be water resistant.

**Single wall tent:** The tent body is made of the thicker, water resistant material. Poles attach directly to the tent body. There is no extra rain fly.

**Semi-Single wall tent:** There is a tent body and separate rain fly, however the assembly of the tent is completely backwards. The poles attach to the rain fly directly, generally through sleeves on the inside surface of the fly. The fly/poles combination can be used separately as a seriously stout bivy shelter, or an internal tent body can be used. When used, the internal tent body loosely clips to the inside of the rain fly/pole setup. With some models, optional floor tarps are available to use in place of the internal tent body.

Of single wall tents, the Mountain Hardware EV2 is one of the lightest I've seen. Weighing in at only 5 pounds for a two person, mountaineering tent, the EV2 isn't going to break your back. At \$625 (REI retail price) is not an entry-level tent, but more for the serious mountaineer. The polycarbonate plastic clips holding the poles to the tent are not something I'm a fan of. I would rather see fabric sleeves, which would be much stronger than clips. Either way I can imagine snow piling up around the exposed poles, and in that pocket on top between all three poles.



The Hilleberg Nallo is one of the "semi-single wall" tents I mentioned. The Nallo does not have a removable inner tent like others in this category. This tent strikes me more as a mixed 3/4 season tent than a pure 4 season tent. Made of a strong fabric and a couple of poles, the Nallo forms a nice tunnel design when staked out properly. Perfect for extended backpacking trips and moderate alpine environments, at only 4 ½ pounds, this tent is worth taking a look at despite the \$500 price tag.

The Jannu and Kaitum are two other models really worth looking at from Hilleberg The Tentmaker.



Exped makes a couple of different tents that fall into today's limited category.

The Polar is a true single wall tent built for the worst mother nature can throw at it. Ok, maybe it won't survive two weeks of 100 mph winds on Denali, but how many tents would. All three poles are in sleeves and there are plenty of guy lines to hold it steady in the wind. A fourth pole can be purchased separately, which is the only thing I don't like about this tent right now. That 4th pole is a third 1/2 hoop that goes halfway down the length of the tent. As it is, the two 1/2 hoop poles and the top "ridgeback" pole make this both a free-standing setup and strong. I'm just not a fan of buying extra poles or removable vestibules separately, I want the full package in one kit. Despite the 6 pound weight, this one has the Gear Dork's attention!



The Venus II Extreme (pictured) and the Vela II Extreme are of the "semi-single wall" variety also offered by Exped. Both models can be used as just the fly and poles for a stout bivy shelter, or add in the inner tent body for standard year round camping. With the Venus the poles slide through sleeves in the fly, keeping that stretched tight to fight the wind and keep snow from piling up. The Vela can have the poles in either the tent or the fly, making it versatile. Also the Vela does not have any zippers on the fly, giving one less thing to fail. Both of these tents weigh in near 5 1/2 pounds and the option of not carrying the inner tent means that could be less weight in your pack.



Bibler is the last tent maker I'm going to cover today, though there are others making great tents. Bibler is associated with Black Diamond and makes some incredible tents. Anyone making a tent called "the bombshelter" must know what they're doing! The I-Tent and Eldorado are essentially the same tent, only the Eldorado is 5 inches longer. The Ahwahnee could be incredibly versatile in that both long sides full unzip (lower corner, around the top, to other lower corner) to make the biggest door seen on a 2 person tent. All three are essentially a 2 pole design, with the Ahwahnee adding a 1/2 pole at the top to support the gaping openings of the doors.



The Fitzroy (pictured) and the Tempest are four pole tents that can simply take a beating. All of the Bibler tents have a common design feature, the poles are on the inside of the tent. The tent fabric stretched over an exo-skeleton of poles is going to be much stronger than the external pole designs. The result is a clean exterior as well, providing fewer places for rain and snow to puddle up.



The Gear Dork's biggest complaint about the Bibler tents is that vestibule is "optional". The Tempest has a sewn on vestibule and is not part of the rant, but it's the only one from Bibler with a vestibule. I really like the modular idea of having a removable vestibule, in great summer weather there is rarely a need for one. However the Fitzroy is already a \$700 tent, and then I have to spend other \$125 on the vestibule? This Gear Dork is annoyed! I'd take this tent to any mountain on Earth, if only I could afford to take it out of the store!

At \$500 the Tempest is the most affordable Bibler tent, and at about 7 pounds it's a good investment for the serious alpine climber.

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

*" If one should ask me what 'use' there was in climbing, or attempting to climb the world's highest peak, I would be compelled to answer 'none'. There is no scientific end to be served; simply the gratification of the impulse of achievement, the indomitable desire to see what lies beyond that ever beats within the heart of man. "*

*- Attributed to George L. Mallory, March 1923*

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## COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...

- *THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*
- *YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*
- *ANOTHER CONSERVATION COLUMN ???*
- *ANOTHER GEAR DORK'S CORNER ???*
- *AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 21 MAY 2007...*

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                        \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

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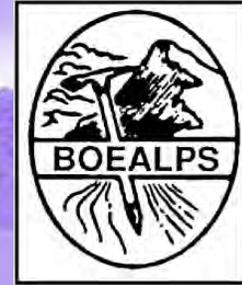
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*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

JUNE 2007



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Rainier 101, basic information on the two most popular routes on Rainier.

also:  
BAG-IT night,  
summer climb  
planning

## BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, 6 June, 18:30**

**AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG  
7755 E MARGINAL WY S**



# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

The Basic Rock Class is rapidly approaching. This is perfect for folks who want to extend their climbing experience to more alpine rock. The class starts June 25, space is limited, sign up now!

The June General Meeting will be on an unusual day, Wed. June 6, Building 2-22. The program will be Rainier 101, basic info for those interested in climbing the two most popular Rainier routes, Muir and Emmons by yours truly, Rich Humbert. A trip planning session will follow where BCC students can plan their own climbs or sign on to trips planned by others.

We have a trip report this month from Shella Knoll, who, together with Bernie, ascended one of Washington's 100 highest peaks in spite of a bum leg.

We have a report from the BCC of a successful ascent of Mt. Baring by Morten Hansen.

Opportunities to give back to the environment are coming up June 2,3,9 & 10. The trail system suffered a lot of damage last winter and could use your help. Volunteer to join the BCC students as they work on the Heather Lake or Mt. Pugh trails. See the Boealps and the Community section.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
Rich

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
June General Meeting.....	p. 7
Summer Climb Series.....	p. 8
Basic Rock Class.....	p. 9
REPORTS	
Abernathy.....	p. 10
Baring.....	p. 12
FUTURE EVENTS/CLIMBS..... p. 18	
BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY	
Trail Maintenance.....	p. 19
Flood Damage/Trail Access.....	p. 19
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....p. 20	
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....p. 22	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>June</b>					1	2 BCC Grad. Climb / Trail Maint. ←
						ICC Alpine 1 ←
3 → →	4	5	6 Gen. Meeting / Bag-It night	7	8	9 BCC Grad. Climb / Trail Maint. ←
10 →	11	12 Board Meeting	13 BCC Graduation Night	14	15	16
17 Father's Day	18 ICC Lecture 7	19	20	21	22	23 ICC Alpine 2 ←
24 →	25 Echo Deadline  BRC Lecture 1	26	27	28	29	30 BRC Leavenworth

**2007**

<b>July</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> July 4 Holiday Boealps Picnic	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> ICC Lecture 8	<b>10</b> Board Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> ICC Alpine Exper. #3 ←
<b>15</b> →	<b>16</b> BRC Lecture 2	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> ← BRC Smith Rock
<b>22</b> →	<b>23</b> ICC Lecture 9 Echo Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> ICC Ice Climbing ←
<b>29</b> →	<b>30</b> BRC Lecture 3	<b>31</b>				

**2007**

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## *CHIEF INSTRUCTOR WANTED !!!*

Regrettably, at the April Boealps board meeting Jerry Baillie, our long time BCC chief instructor, informed the board that he has decided to step down next year. Jerry has agreed to help prepare the person attempting to fill his shoes. In order to ensure we have a smooth transition we need to identify candidates for the chief instructor position as soon as possible. If you are interested in the chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified. According to Jerry, the position is much more dependent upon organizational and personality skills, rather than actual climbing skills; so please don't feel that you have to be the best or most experienced climber to be a serious candidate.

## *NEW CLUB LIBRARIAN*

Another brave soul has answered our call to duty and stepped up to become the BoeAlpS librarian: Matt Wetzel. Matt, who is currently enrolled in the BCC, will have the initial task of taking inventory of the recently moved library. Once this initial step is done, members should be able to take out guide books, travel books, and mountain adventure narratives...

As mentioned previously, the old BoeAlpS library has been moved to the 2-22 building, where most of BoeAlpS meetings and classes take place. This is great news, and brings welcomed accessibility to a great BoeAlpS asset.

## *CLUB CLASSES*

The BCC is winding down with only the graduation climb and trail maintenance outings to come. The upcoming Basic Rock Class is intended as a way for BCC students to gain more experience before starting the ICC. The BRC starts June 25. Get your applications in to Mike Zalewski. The ICC is well underway.

## *THE ECHO ARCHIVES*

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

## *NEXT BOARD MEETING*

And finally, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12 June 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcome to attend.



# BoeAlps General Meeting Agenda June 6<sup>th</sup> 2007

## OVERVIEW

### Rainier 101 Bag-it Night

That is Wednesday June 6th!! Come and hear Rich Humbert regale you with his experience on Mt. Rainier - what you need to know, what you should know, and other bits of information that may help you out in reaching the summit this year!

Then let's plan some climbs! There will be plenty of opportunity to plan some climbs with your fellow BoeAlpers.

Pizza and Soda will be provided by the club and the BCC.

#### Time Breakdown

6:30 - 7:00	Social Time
7:00-7:15	General Announcements By BoeAlps President Bob Bautista
7:15 - 8:15	Rainier 101
8:15-9:00	Bag-It (Climb Planning)
9:00	Adjourn



# Summer Climb Series 2007

*Brought to you for the second year by your very own BoeAlpS Activities Committee!!!*

**Mountaineering /n./** slow walking uphill while not feeling very well.

At this very moment, most of you are probably thinking: "Activities committee ?!?! I didn't know BoeAlpS had an activities committee.... Yes, remember us? We brought you a very successful 2006 Summer Series. And by popular demand, we are back for another year! So, rest assured my little climbing friend... There is no need to worry about your summer climbing plans! Rather, be comforted in the knowledge that a band of fearless individuals have freely taken over your summer dreams and summer days to bring you countless opportunities to do what you all do best: climb. So, Come one, come all and join in the summer ritual of climbing. No need to fear about your experience level, there is plenty to partake for all! Here is a glimpse of the type of climbs that you, yes you, could be participating in this summer!

The BoeAlpS Activities Committee  
"Climb Now, Work Later."

## **Climbs, Hikes and Scrambles – Summer 2007**

### Climbs Suited for BCC Graduates

Basic Class skills should be sufficient for the following outings. These climbs do not yet have trip leaders. These are a great opportunity for BCC graduates to step up and organize their first climbs, practice skills, and meet new climbing partners. Contact the trip leaders directly to sign up for a climb or if a trip does not yet have an organizer and you would like to organize and advertise your own outing not listed here, please contact Shella Knoll [shellaknoll@yahoo.com](mailto:shellaknoll@yahoo.com).

**The list can include:**

**Top 100 Candidates: Mt. Baker, Mt. Adams (South Spur or North Ridge), Mt. Rainier, Little Tahoma, Mt. Daniel, Sahale, Shuksan, Black Peak, Robinson, Fortress, Chiwawa, Mt. St. Helens**

**I-90 Corridor Candidates: Tinkham, Abiel and Silver Slam; Kaleetan, Cathedral Rock,**

**Other Great Peaks: Fay Peak, Hessong Rock, (Mt. Rainier National Park), Unicorn (Tatoosh Range),**

Fill out the attached form for inclusion into the weekly mailings.

**Advanced Climbs** The following climb ideas are more advanced, with difficulty and required experience levels given for each outing. **Jack Mountain, Bonanza**

# BOEALPS Basic Rock Class 2007

It's here! The Basic Climbing Class is about to finish up, and the Basic Rock Class (BRC) is ready to get underway. The BRC is designed to:

- Provide students with opportunities to practice rock climbing
- Familiarize students with the principles of lead climbing through following
- Bridge the gap between the BCC and ICC for students who want to continue their training. (Intent to take the ICC is not requisite)

## Class Mission Statement

The BRC is designed to create **mentorship relationships**, making students more **independent as climbers** and introducing them to **different climbing techniques** and **potential climbing partners**.

### CLASS SCHEDULE

Lectures	Outings
Mon, 6/25 Orientation/Lecture #1	6/30-7/1 – Skills Review Leavenworth
Mon, 7/16 Lecture #2	7/21-22 – Smith Rock, OR
Mon, 7/30 Lecture #3	8/4-5 – Squamish, BC
Mon, 8/13 Lecture #4	8/18-19 – Grad Alpine Climb

The class is limited to 16 students, so get your applications in soon (deadline is 6/25). All applications will be reviewed and the accepted students will be notified.

The cost of the class is \$110 for BOEALPS members and \$140 for non-members (please provide your class fee no later than the first class, 6/25). Gear requirements are minimal; in addition to BCC gear, you will need rock shoes, a nut tool, and a cordelette.

BRC applications are available at [www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org) in the Basic Rock Class section. Any questions please contact Mike Zalewski at the phone number or email address on the student application.

Climb on,

Mike Zalewski  
BRC Lead Instructor

## 50% Climbing - Abernathy

Bernie & Shella (scribe) Knoll

So at this point you may be asking yourself, what the heck is 50% climbing? Is that a new term? Not really. A little background may be in order to explain the events as they happened.

In January I tore up my knee skiing - silly little fall really, with huge impacts. I not only tore my ACL clean off, but sheared my femoral cartilage, two tears in my meniscus and a small hole in my MCL. Yep, I don't believe in doing anything half way. Nope, not me. So I got the pleasure of repeating crutches for another two full months. I had to keep the weight off my right leg so as not to disturb the blood clot that would help the cartilage grow.

So here we are in May - Memorial Day weekend and my goal all along was to be able to get out and climb something. Since I ditched the crutches in March, I had been practicing on "little" climbs like Mt. Si, and Norse Peak and even did Tenerife (okay, that was probably not very smart but still I did it! And in my own defense, anyone who has ever been injured and heard the call of the hills can completely understand).

As the weekend approached Bern and I discussed what we thought my leg might be able to stand and where we should go. Abernathy sounded like a good choice. It is one of the hundred highest and from all reports fairly easy to access.

Friday night found us all packed up in the truck with some of our new gear (lightweight crampons!) and heading towards the Mt. Loop Highway. We made it as far as Lone Pole something or other campground where we pitched the tent for the night. As soon as day broke we were on the road again and heading towards Winthrop. Stopped in the little grocery store in Winthrop where a nice little old lady helped us with food, coffee and a few stories of her childhood growing up in Twisp. (The story was very interesting - I had no idea you could kill a deer, put the meat in mason jars and then sink the jars in river mud, where the meat would keep all summer - at least according to her!)

Anyway, all caffeinated up we headed for the hills. Found the trail head, (Scatter Creek Trailhead) made lunches, donned our boots, grabbed the hiking poles, and began walking. The trail for the most part is gentle - after all it is only 4.5 miles to Scatter Lake. My leg was doing well, my pack was light, and I was happy to be in the woods again. The miles wore under our feet and before we knew it we had hit the snow line. We found some great little rocks to stop and take a bite to eat before getting my leg onto the snow. Up to this point, I had only done about 1000 feet of snow, and I didn't kick the steps, Kathleen Collins did! My leg held up well that day, and there was no reason why it wouldn't hold up well today.

After marmoting (Marmoting: laying on a warm rock sleeping in the sun) on the rocks for 45 minutes, we loaded up and headed up the "trail" once again. Very soon however, the distinguishable trail vanished and we were just mucking our way up. I hadn't really looked at the map so was relying on Bernie to lead the way - working and going to school, and climbing is a lot for one person to accomplish! Anyway, as I said, in hindsight, I should have been paying more attention to the detail of the map along with Bernie, when we came to a decision to cross the creek or not to cross the creek. Well we crossed the creek, which in hindsight was a bad thing. We began following the wrong water course and after another hour found ourselves in the wrong hanging valley. The ridge to our left separated us from the basin we needed to be in. Consulting our map (which was in meters and not miles - mistake number 2) we realized what we had done and where we needed to go. Not wanting to lose a lot of elevation, for fear that my leg would not have the strength to climb another 1000 feet, we elected to traverse. At this point, my leg was pretty much done. I had totally worn it out. I couldn't kick a step if I wanted to. Bernie led out for us and kicked deep deep steps in the soft snow so all I had to was balance and walk behind him. I was a bit nervous as my leg was tired, and the grade was steep. Normally this would not have bothered me, however when you aren't really strong enough, everything takes on a monumental view.

We reached the ridgeline that separated us from the other valley and headed down the scree, again, mostly traversing so as not to lose elevation. Once back on the snow, Bern, bless his heart, kicked more steps for me, keeping the right step very short so as not to over stress the knee or my tired leg. All we wanted to do was reach the lake and camp! Thoughts of summiting in the morning were dimming by the moment as I got more and more tired.

We are trudging along, thinking we were the only ones out there, when Bernie turns and says, "there are people at the lake". My heart sank a bit. I was really looking forward to solitude. Approaching the people standing by the lake, one says, "Hi Shella!" uh.....and you are?? Dressed in her down jacket with a balaclava on, I couldn't tell *who* that was! The voice was familiar

though, and as she removed the balaclava and blond hair came into view, I realized it was Vicky Larsen! Imagine that! The mountains may seem vast, but really, they are a small world!

Chatting with Vicky we found that another group was ahead of them summiting Abernathy. Those folks were Signe & Greg, Carter Nelson and Terry Hill. We could faintly see them up on the ridge going for the summit in the clear blue afternoon.

Pitching our tent and setting up camp we waited for their descent; we were interested in the beta about the climb and wanted to say hi. We didn't have to wait long - watching them glissade from the top, they were all down in a few short minutes! Bern and I knew that it was going to be a fast descent the next day!

True enough, the route was as straight forward as it looked, the only warning Signe had was, don't follow the footsteps all the way right, go left! The rocks may look inviting but the summit is to the left (just like we saw them going at the saddle). They also warned us that the Marblemount Ranger had stated weather was moving in tonight and tomorrow there was a 70% chance of rain. Hm. Well, it wouldn't be any different than most summits we get, standing in the clouds!

The rest of the night was uneventful and quiet. Morning dawned cool and grey - however the sun was playing tag with the clouds; we had moments of clear blue sky, and moments of grey. I was indecisive on if my leg could do it. When the wind whipped up it was quite strong. I was worried about possibly losing my balance and falling; the snow had hardened up, not as soft as the day before - Bern reminded me however that their steps would be buckets and we should be okay. After hemming and hawing a bit, we moseyed around the lake to take a look. My leg was feeling strong, not hurting and my perception began to change from doubt to, "I can do this!"

With my ice axe in one hand and my trekking pole in the other, we headed steadily up hill. The footsteps from the day before were a God send (Thanks Signe, Greg, Terry and Carter!!!) Without those Bernie would have been very tired kicking steps. However, because they were already set, it made the ascent easy and swift. Up up up we went. Plant, step, step, Plant, step step; over and over again until we hit the scree. I couldn't believe I had done it! I was more than a little elated to know my knee was strong enough! We hiked up the scree to the saddle and turned left to ascend the little slope towards the summit and in just over an hour from leaving the lake we were standing on top! In a way, it seemed almost anti-climatic; I guess I just expected it to be harder than it was.

I had really wanted to put our names in the summit register, but I guess it was still buried under the snow. After a few pictures, we headed back down the way we came. I still had to be careful descending - we chose to go back down the scree and not glissade off the top, as it seemed pretty steep and I had not tested glissading yet. We reached the part where we could glissade all the way to the lake and Bernie gave it a go, testing it out. He said the snow was soft enough that I should be able to manage my speed. It was steep, and it was a challenge to keep the speed under control. I noticed that my leg did bounce and I was worried about twisting it, but after a bit, I had it all under control and ended up down at the lake. The descent took 10 minutes!!

After that, the rest of the day was uneventful. We packed up and hiked back to the truck, where our beer was still cold!

## Team Bravo -Mt. Baring

May 5, 2007 Morten Hansen



The team met at the Baring rail road crossing at 6:00 AM. Then we drove up the forest service road to the Barkley Lake trailhead. We were a little sluggish getting going, but we left the trail head at 6:45. The first two hundred yards is a pleasant level walk along an abandoned road, but then the real work began.



The climbers path starts in a steep creek bed, and continues steeply for the next two thousand vertical feet. We were probably the first large team of people to attempt the peak this year, so we were mostly breaking trail for this season.



It took us 2 hours and 15 minutes to reach the top of the ridge. There was a little snow near the top, but on the ridge the wind had blown off the snow, and only a light dusting remained.

The pleasant trail on the quarter mile long ridge was quite slippery, which made some of the steep descents more interesting.



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which



The ridge trail eventually drops below a cliff band, before the path heads up a steep slope to the basin above.

This was the second most difficult part of the climb. The shallow snow cover was compacted to solid ice, and was covered in about two inches of fresh powder. We followed someone else's steps, since kicking steps into the ice was not practical.

At this point we were very concerned about even making it to the basin, since the snow

conditions were proving to be quite treacherous; crampons would have been the preferred footwear.

By noon we were in the summit basin, where we had a quick lunch break to recharge for our final summit push.

Kristi was feeling exhausted from the already difficult climb and opted to stay in the basin, to have more energy for a safe descent.





From the bowl you could see the South summit (right) and the summit (left) of Mt Baring. The gulley was lined with sluff, avalanche danger appeared to be less than moderate. To our the ten feet from the steep slope below the basin to the flat basin yielded vastly different snow conditions. The snow in was perfect for kicking steps, we sank in about 6 inches in consolidated snow, and our spirits rose again.

The climb up the gulley was rather pleasant, compared with nerving icy slopes below the basin.

As we climbed the gulley to the saddle between the two summit blocks, we were treated to some beautiful snow falls coming off the South summit of Mt Baring. At first it looked like spectacular powder avalanches, but there was so little snow in the snow falls, that very little of it actually reached the gulley we were climbing in.



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The last part of the gulley, and the few feet starting up the North summit were quite steep, but snow conditions were excellent, and the run outs (in case of a fall) were relatively safe, so we did not use a rope.



Once everyone had climbed the steep snow onto the large summit block, there was a sense of excitement, that sense of certainty that we were going to make the summit, now we just had to hike the last short distance to the summit. This last seemingly easy hike still took almost an hour, giving us plenty of time to appreciate how large Mt Baring really is. We were on the summit at 2 PM.



We spent about 25 minutes on the summit enjoying a cold lunch and an assortment of summit treats. We left the summit at 2:25.



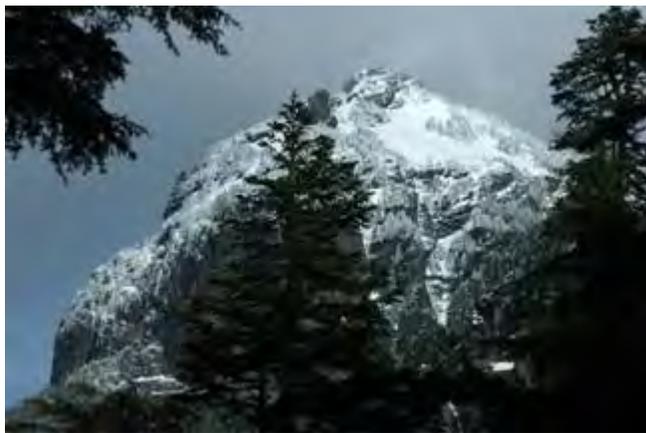
The descent to the saddle was steep indeed, but since the snow was still perfect for kicking steps, it turned out that a rope was not needed by anyone in our party. We glissaded down the gully, and returned to the bowl by 3 PM, where we enjoyed another 15 minute snack break.



Before we left the saddle Mt Baring graced us with a great view of the 3000 vertical feet of the impressive North wall of the mountain



The descent down the steep icy slope took almost two hours. We were extremely careful to get bomber holds with our ice axes. Fortunately the ice had softened, so it was possible to kick small steps and arrest with the ice axe. We all got some excellent practice in using our ice axes, balancing, and how to walk on compact snow/ice.



After traversing the rather long (now uphill) ridge, everyone's reserves were depleted. It was practically a silent walk along the ridge, an unusual sound for this team. We decided to take a quick 15 minute snack break at the end of the ridge traverse, to give us a boost for the steep descent down the gully. We started our descent at 4:40, and returned to the cars at 7:30, just 12 hours and 45 minutes after we started.

What a great trip!



## *Upcoming events/trips*

Antarctica and Patagonia  
Dec 07 or Jan 08



Torres del Paine - Chile, R. Humbert Photo

Fitzroy and Cerro Torre are even more impressive.

Antarctica and Patagonia  
Dec 07 or Jan 08

Rich Humbert is considering a trip to the tip of South America, a cruise to the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula from Ushuaia, Argentina. Hope to climb volcanic Deception Island. Also, maybe hiking up to get views of Cerro Torre and Fitzroy.

This is likely to be quite an expensive trip, possibly \$5000 - \$6000?? for the cruise and an additional \$2000??? for transportation and Patagonia. Currently in the early stages of investigation regarding feasibility of the trip. If you might be interested, contact Rich - [richhumbert@hotmail.com](mailto:richhumbert@hotmail.com).

Skill level: BCC, not planning any serious rock climbing.

**BOEALPS FALL CAMPOUT Sept 14-16**  
Eight Mile Campground, Icicle Creek, Leavenworth-  
This year our own Vlad Popa is getting a Rock Seminar put together!

# **BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY**

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## **Trail maintenance**

The BCC students will be doing trail maintenance June 2 and 3 at the Heather Lake Trail. Meet at 8:30 at the Verlot Ranger Station. The following weekend, June 9 and 10 they will be working on the Mt. Pugh trail. Meet at the Darrington Ranger Station at 8:30. WTA is organizing the work party and will meet us at the Ranger Stations. Come out and help give back to the community.

## **Trail Damage**

In addition to the widely reported damage to Mt. Rainier National Park last fall, the local National Forests also suffered unusually severe damage to trails and access roads. The Washington Trails Association has put together a web site with information on closed/damaged trails. It is worth checking out before planning a trip this summer. [www.traildamage.wta.org](http://www.traildamage.wta.org) the site will be updated as conditions change and repairs are made.

## *COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...*

—————→ *THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*

—————→ *YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*

—————→ *ANOTHER CONSERVATION COLUMN ???*

—————→ *ANOTHER GEAR DORK'S CORNER ???*

—————→ *AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 23 June, 2007...*

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                      \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

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

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IN THIS PUBLICATION DO NOT NECESSARILY  
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ALPINE ECHO



June Echo staff

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Contributors:

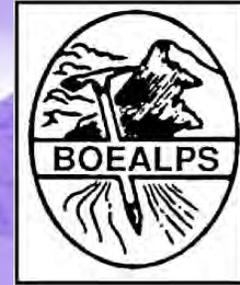
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*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at [editor@boealps.org](mailto:editor@boealps.org), or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

JULY 2007



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## BOEALPS 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PICNIC

**Where:** Marymoor Park by the climbing Rock (of course!)

**When:** July 4<sup>th</sup> (doh)

**Time:** Noon to about 5 pm

*The club will provide hamburgers and soda. This is a potluck, so please bring something to share and snack on! Additionally we will have Frisbee's, baseballs, footballs etc. So even if your significant other doesn't climb, there should be something for everyone!*

# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

As I gear up for my annual pilgrimage up our beloved Mount Rainier, my thoughts go out to all of my many climber friends out there going through the same motions for the coming weekend. There is a lot of activity in the mountains these days : our recently graduated BCC students are planning and climbing - on their own or with the Summer Climb Series - the familiar glaciated volcanoes, the ICC crowd is honing its alpine skills on more challenging terrain, the BRC is off to Leavenworth this first weekend of July with a full roster of eager rock adepts. It's good to hear of so many climbs being planned in the wilderness, despite the heavy flood and storm damages apparent all over : BoeAlpers always enjoy an additional challenge ! Nevertheless, be respectful of the environment and be patient with repairs: try not to create too much impact while bypassing downed trees and crossing new river flows, and remember that it's never too late to help with Trail Maintenance, as pointed out by our Conservation Chair Len Kannapell in this month's Conservation Corner.

We have a full and exciting Echo this month, filled with upcoming activities and trips (Patagonia and Bhutan expeditions are in the works), and awesome trip reports from "big wall" seekers (Eric Fjellanger and Mike Zalewski vs Yosemite's The Prow) and "100 Highest" chasers (Bernie and Shella Knoll vs Windy Peak).

July will kick off with the BoeAlpS Annual 4th of July Picnic - replacing the monthly general meeting with a burger-fest at the Marymoor Park Climbing Rock. The Holiday is right smack in the middle of the week this year (no extended weekend...), so why not come outdoors and enjoy the day rock climbing and eating burgers ! That's what Ben Franklin would do !

The Summer Climbs Series is in full swing: check out their impressive list of outings scheduled throughout the month. And if you feel like the family life is preventing you from enjoying the outdoors, the BoeBabies Summer Campout has the answer ! Bring all the household over to Leavenworth for a weekend of family fun in the outdoors (no Nintendos allowed...). For those looking for a higher purpose to their climbing ventures, why not join the 3 Summits for Nepal endeavour, put together by Ambrose Bittner to raise funding for the children of Nepal ?

A few BCC teams are also sharing their nostalgic memories of this year's class with snapshots and laughter in the BCC 2007 yearbook. But the last laugh still belongs to Ron Fleck, offering his version of a classic serenade to love... of the mountains.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
François

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
4th of July Picnic.....	p. 7
BoeBabies Summer Campout.....	p. 8
Summer Climb Series.....	p. 9
Expedition Planning: Antarctica and Patagonia.....	p. 12
Bhutan Snowman Trek.....	p. 12
BCC 2007 YEARBOOK.....	p. 13
REPORTS	
<i>Prowed</i> , by Eric Fjellanger.....	p. 17
<i>Chasing the Hundred Highest - Windy Peak</i> , by Shella Knoll.....	p. 27
COLUMNS	
Conservation Corner.....	p. 30
BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY	
3 Summits for Nepal's Children.....	p. 31
RON FLECK's TRAVELING KARAOKE SHOWCASE.....	p. 33
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 34
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 35
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 36

<b>July</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2	3	4 BoeAlps 4th of July Picnic at Marymoor	5	6	7
8	9 ICC Lecture 8	10 Board Meeting	11	12	13	14 BoeBabies Campout ← ICC Alpine Climb 3 ←
15 ← ←	16 BRC Lecture 2	17	18	19	20	21 ← BRC Smith Rock
22 ←	23 ICC Lecture 9 Echo Deadline	24	25	26	27	28 ICC Ice Climbing ←
29 ←	30 BRC Lecture 3	31				

2007



Larch Branch in Sawtooth Wilderness (28 May 2007) (photo by C. Nelson)



Dancing Clouds above Colchuk (23 June 2007) (photo by M. Horiuchi)

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
August			<b>1</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> BRC Squamish ←
<b>5</b> →	<b>6</b> ICC Lecture 10	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> ICC Alpine 4 ←
<b>12</b> →	<b>13</b> BRC Lecture 4	<b>14</b> Board Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> BRC Grad Climb ←
<b>19</b> → Father's Day	<b>20</b> ICC Lecture 11	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> ICC Grad Climb ←
<b>26</b> →	<b>27</b> Echo Deadline	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	2007

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **BCC CHIEF INSTRUCTOR WANTED !!!**

Regrettably, at the April Boealps board meeting Jerry Baillie, our long time BCC chief instructor, informed the board that he has decided to step down next year. Jerry has agreed to help prepare the person attempting to fill his shoes. In order to ensure we have a smooth transition we need to identify candidates for the chief instructor position as soon as possible.

If you are interested in the chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified. According to Jerry, the position is much more dependent upon organizational and personality skills, rather than actual climbing skills; so please don't feel that you have to be the best or most experienced climber to be a serious candidate.

...

## **BRC CLASS UNDERWAY AND INSTRUCTORS WANTED !!!**

The Basic Rock Climbing Class has accepted a full roster of students this year (16 !) and is just now getting started. In order to meet the one-to-one instructor-student ratio for which this BoeAlpS class is renowned for, additional lead climbers are required. The class is relatively short, with only 4 outings scheduled, so the commitment is not to be feared ! If you are comfortable leading rock, and would like to help out on one or more outings, please contact BRC Chief Instructor Mike Zalewski (mjzalewski@yahoo.com).

...

## **AGRIS MORUSS FUND**

For those new members who may not be aware of it, or those faithful members who may have forgotten, The Agris Moruss Fund is still alive and well and accessible to members. The Fund was created in the late 80's to uphold the memory and spirit of a beloved BoeAlpS instructor and awards grants yearly to expeditions organized by BoeAlpS members.

If you are planning such a trip and would like to apply for a grant from the Agris Moruss fund, please contact any of the BoeAlpS Board members or the fund's Board of Trustees (see Echo front page for contact information).

...

## **THE ECHO ARCHIVES**

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10 July 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

...

**FOR THOSE WHO MAY HAVE ALREADY FORGOTTEN THE FRONT PAGE, HERE'S A REMINDER !!!**

## **BOEALPS 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PICNIC**

Where: Marymoor Park by the climbing Rock (of course!)  
When: July 4<sup>th</sup> (doh)  
Time: Noon to about 5 pm

The club will provide hamburgers and soda. This is a potluck, so please bring something to share and snack on! Additionally we will have Frisbee's, baseballs, footballs etc. So even if your significant other doesn't climb, there should be something for everyone!

**REMEMBER :**  
**YOU DON'T GET TO CELEBRATE THE 4th OF JULY EVERY DAY SO BE SURE TO ATTEND !!!**

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# **BOEBABIES (BoeKids) Summer Campout!**

## **Tumwater Campground**

### **July 14-15**

Ever wonder what happens at the BoeBabies Campout!? Ever wonder just what a BoeBabies campout is?! Well, I did!

Many years ago, in a land close to town, there were a group of climbers who had a passel of kids! Hence Boebabies was born. Of course the babies have grown but a continual influx of new babies, keeps the tradition alive and well.

Each year, these folks get together for one large campout! And believe me, large is an understatement. Adults, kids, dogs, it is one amazing weekend – camping, hiking, swimming, and even a little rock climbing if one is so inclined.

This year will be no exception I'm certain. We have set the campout to be just outside of Leavenworth at the Tumwater campground. Still, there will be hiking, campfires, star gazing and anything else you and your munchkins can think up. It is a great time, with great people, and a good way to connect our families within our BoeAlps family!

For more information, contact Tammie Conder ([tammieconder@yahoo.com](mailto:tammieconder@yahoo.com)) or Shella Knoll ([shellaknoll@yahoo.com](mailto:shellaknoll@yahoo.com))

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# Summer Climb Series 2007!

***Brought to you for the second year by your very own BoeAlpS Activities Committee!!!***

**Mountaineering /n./** slow walking uphill while not feeling very well.

What a month – can't say the weather has been very cooperative, but have faith, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is just around the corner! Any true north westerner can testify, that this means better weather is on the way! With that comes long days of sunshine, warm rock, high places, breathtaking sights, and more peaks to climb than we all have time for!

We have had a few brave souls come forward to take their trip and invite others along – after all that is what the climb series is all about! So, you know who you are, you have a trip planned and need/want someone to come along? This is a great opportunity to get that climb on the club calendar, get others out to join you!

We have had a few good climbs already this summer! Sean O'Meara tackled (I think) Ingalls peak earlier this month (yes, it was raining that weekend), Morten Hansen was on Baker this weekend (yes, it was raining again this weekend), and Youen Pen trucked up Rainier via the Emmons Glacier (maybe.....as you may have heard, it was raining). However, there are folks still hitting the trail and the weather is getting better! So grab those boots, trekking poles, maps and water! And let's hit the trails!!

The BoeAlpS Activities Committee  
"Climb Now, Work Later."  
[bernieandshell@yahoo.com](mailto:bernieandshell@yahoo.com)

## **Climbs, Hikes and Scrambles – Summer 2007**

### **Climbing Ideas:**

**Top 100 Candidates: Mt. Baker, Mt. Adams (South Spur or North Ridge), Mt. Rainier, Little Tahoma, Mt. Daniel, Sahale, Shuksan, Black Peak, Robinson, Fortress, Chiwawa, Mt. St. Helens**

**I-90 Corridor Candidates: Tinkham, Abiel and Silver Slam; Kaleetan, Cathedral Rock,**

**Other Great Peaks: Fay Peak, Hessong Rock, (Mt. Rainier National Park), Unicorn (Tatoosh Range),**

### **Mt. Shuksan June 30- July 1**

Contact: Phillip (Jonesy) Jones ([aurorabucky@yahoo.com](mailto:aurorabucky@yahoo.com))

### **BOEALPS 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic!!!**

**Where: Marymoor Park By the climbing rock (of course!)**

**When: July 4<sup>th</sup>! (doh)**

**Time: Noon to about 5 pm**

**The club will provide hamburgers and soda. This is potluck; please bring something to snack on!**

**Also, your climbing gear! Additionally we will have Frisbee's baseballs, footballs etc.**

**So if you have nothing else to do....come out and join us!**

# Summer Climb Series 2007!

## **Mt. Olympus July 4-7**

Party Limit: 8 **(currently full)**

Route: Approach along Hoh River Trail, Climb Blue Glacier to Snow Dome

Elevation: summit - 7980ft, gain from base camp - 3680ft

Equipment: 2 ropes (half ropes are sufficient), pickets, crampons, brain

Difficulty: Glacier Travel, limited snow climbing, 5.0 rock/scramble to summit

Experience: BCC grads preferred, rope guns encouraged, comfort on exposed scrambling accepted

Contact: Cory Huges at cbhuges2@gmail.com or 206-937-2853

## **Luahna (near Lk. Wenatchee) July 7-8**

2 day trip, scramble route

Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: Cell: (425) 736-0501

## **Mt. Adams - South Spur July 14-15**

Party Limit: 8

Route: South Spur route

Elevation: 12276 ft

Equipment: standard BCC graduate climb gear to include crampons

Difficulty: snow climb

Experience: BCC

Contact: Dirk Visser dvisser1@netzero.net or 425-931-4125

## **Glacier Peak July 14-16**

Contact: Phillip (Jonsey) Jones (aurorabucky@yahoo.com)

This is a challenge! Contact Phillip for details.

## **Mt. Pugh July 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Contact: John Alley (johalley@juno.com)

\*This trip is for one day, at the time of sign-ups John wasn't sure which day. Contact him for details.

## **Mt Rainier - Ingrahm or DC July 13 OR July 20**

**\*Weather dependant**

3 Day trip

Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: Cell: (425) 736-0501

# Summer Climb Series 2007!

**Ptarmigan July 13 OR July 20**  
**\*dependant on when Rainier is done**

3 Day trip near Mazama  
Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: Cell: (425) 736-0501

**Buckner August 3rd**

2 Day Trip near Marblemount. Scramble route  
Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: Cell: (425) 736-0501

**Slam! Kimtah, Cosho & Katsuk August 24 OR Sept 14**

Near Rainy Pass, Hwy 20. 3-4 Day Trip or 2 separate trips?  
Scramble Routes  
Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: Cell: (425) 736-0501

**BOEALPS FALL CAMPOUT Sept 14-16**  
**Eight Mile Campground, Icicle Creek, Leavenworth**

**- See the separate advertising for this annual BoeAlpS get-together and climb-fest !!!**  
**This year our own Vlad Popa is getting a Rock Seminar put together!**

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## EXPEDITION PLANNING

---

### Antarctica and Patagonia

Dec 07 or Jan 08



Torres del Paine - Chile, R. Humbert Photo

Fitzroy and Cerro Torre are even more impressive.

Rich Humbert is considering a trip to the tip of South America, a cruise to the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula from Ushuaia, Argentina. Hope to climb volcanic Deception Island. Also, maybe hiking up to get views of Cerro Torre and Fitzroy.

This is likely to be quite an expensive trip, possibly \$5000 - \$6000?? for the cruise and an additional \$2000??? for transportation and Patagonia. Currently in the early stages of investigation regarding feasibility of the trip. If you might be interested, contact Rich - [richhumbert@hotmail.com](mailto:richhumbert@hotmail.com).

Skill level: BCC, not planning any serious rock climbing.

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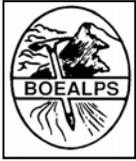
### Bhutan Snowman Trek 2007 Expedition

The expedition schedule is October 8<sup>th</sup> to Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 2007. Estimated cost is \$6,400, which includes airfare from Seattle to Paro, Bhutan and all in country costs, such as transportation, hotels, food, visa charge and guide service.

The Snowman extends along the northern remote border of Bhutan and Tibet. The mountain scenery along trek is some of the most beautiful in the world. The country of Bhutan is rarely visited by outsiders and most of its territory is pristine wilderness with exotic forests and wildlife.

For additional information on Bhutan, just goggle snowman trek.

For additional information on this trip contact Bill Harrison at (206) 533-6388 or email me at [willyllye@yahoo.com](mailto:willyllye@yahoo.com)



# ***BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY 2007 Basic Mountaineering Class***

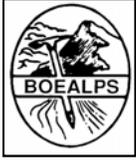


***BOEALPS SALUTES THE BCC CLASS OF 2007 !!!  
CONGRATULATIONS !  
Stand Tall, Climb High, and Be Safe !***



**TEAM PLATINUM**





# ***BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY*** ***2007 Basic Mountaineering Class***

## **Glacier Monkey Theme Song**

### **Sung to the tune of 'The Monkees'**

Here we come, walkin'  
Down the street.  
We get the funniest looks from  
Ev'ry one we meet.

Hey, hey, we're the Monkees  
And people say we monkey around.  
But we're too busy climbing  
To spend any time in town..

We go wherever we want to,  
do what we like to do  
We don't have time to get restless,  
There's always something new (to climb)

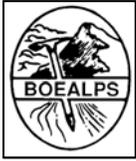
Hey, hey, we're the Monkees  
And people say we monkey around.  
But we're too busy climbing  
To spend any time in town..

We're just tryin' to be friendly,  
Come and watch us climb and glissade,  
Cause We're the glacier monkeys,  
And we're going climbing today.

Pick any hill, Or any peak,  
Just look over your shoulder  
We'll climb it later this week!

Hey, hey, we're the Monkees  
And people say we monkey around.  
But we're too busy climbing  
To spend any time in town..

THE END!



# ***BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY*** ***2007 Basic Mountaineering Class***

## **Team Bravo's Climbing Song**

(Sung responsively like a marching song)

We're Team Bravo, we summit fast.  
Start ahead of us and you'll get passed.

Our first trip was on Erie's slopes,  
In pouring rain we learned our ropes.

On belay or rappel below,  
Your braking hand should ne'er let go.

Up Big Chief Mountain without a rest  
For snow anchors and ice ax arrest.

Lundin's summit we could not wait,  
Back to the cars two hours late.

To Devil's Basin, a climb we tried,  
Unstable snow—our peaks denied.

So, caves of snow we did dig  
Glissading slopes became our gig.

To Leavenworth to practice climb,  
It's sunny rock was sublime.

Mount Baring Peak was our next deed,  
D'spite mud and ice we did succeed.

Climbed Castle's rock under sky of blue,  
Pinnacle 'n Plummer in cloudy gloom.

But Denman Peak we opt to pass,  
An hour late, but we weren't last.

On Rainier's slopes we then did cross,  
Went searching for a big crevasse.

On Nisqually we found our glacial crack,  
Got lowered in without our packs.

That bridge of snow is mighty thin,  
Don't linger there or you'll go in.

So always keep that rope near tight,  
When on a glacier you do alight.

Maintained trails near Heather Lake,  
Our instructors all did not partake.

Eldorado in the cold and rain,  
Instructors asked "Are they insane?"

On glacier's edge we set our camp,  
Climbed five thousand feet in cold and damp.

For fifteen hours we did await,  
Alas, the weather did not abate.

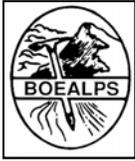
Glad toward home we did return,  
In blowing snow and rainy gloom.

A final summit we did not gain,  
Another day we'll try again.

Thanks to you instructors all,  
This class was great, we had a ball.

Our song is ending, it's time to go,  
Enjoy your climbs on rock and snow.





# BOEING EMPLOYEES ALPINE SOCIETY 2007 Basic Mountaineering Class



...Dulfersitz? ..  
past a knot?



**Happy Mother's  
Day, Mom,  
look what  
we did...**

...Got Some Summits



4 on This  
Day



...Enjoyed Some Nice Camp Sites



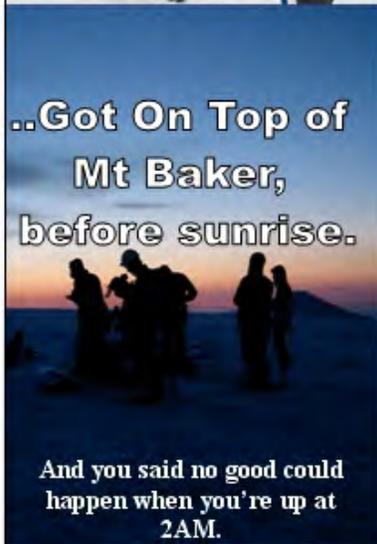
...We walked up hill,  
both ways.

Just like Dad,  
when he went to school.



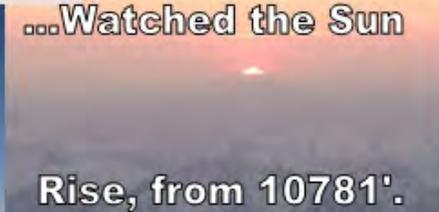
...Jumped off a Cliff

I had to, all my friends  
were doing it.



..Got On Top of  
Mt Baker,  
before sunrise.

And you said no good could  
happen when you're up at  
2AM.



...Watched the Sun

Rise, from 10781'.



And We learned Some Things

are Worth the Weight.



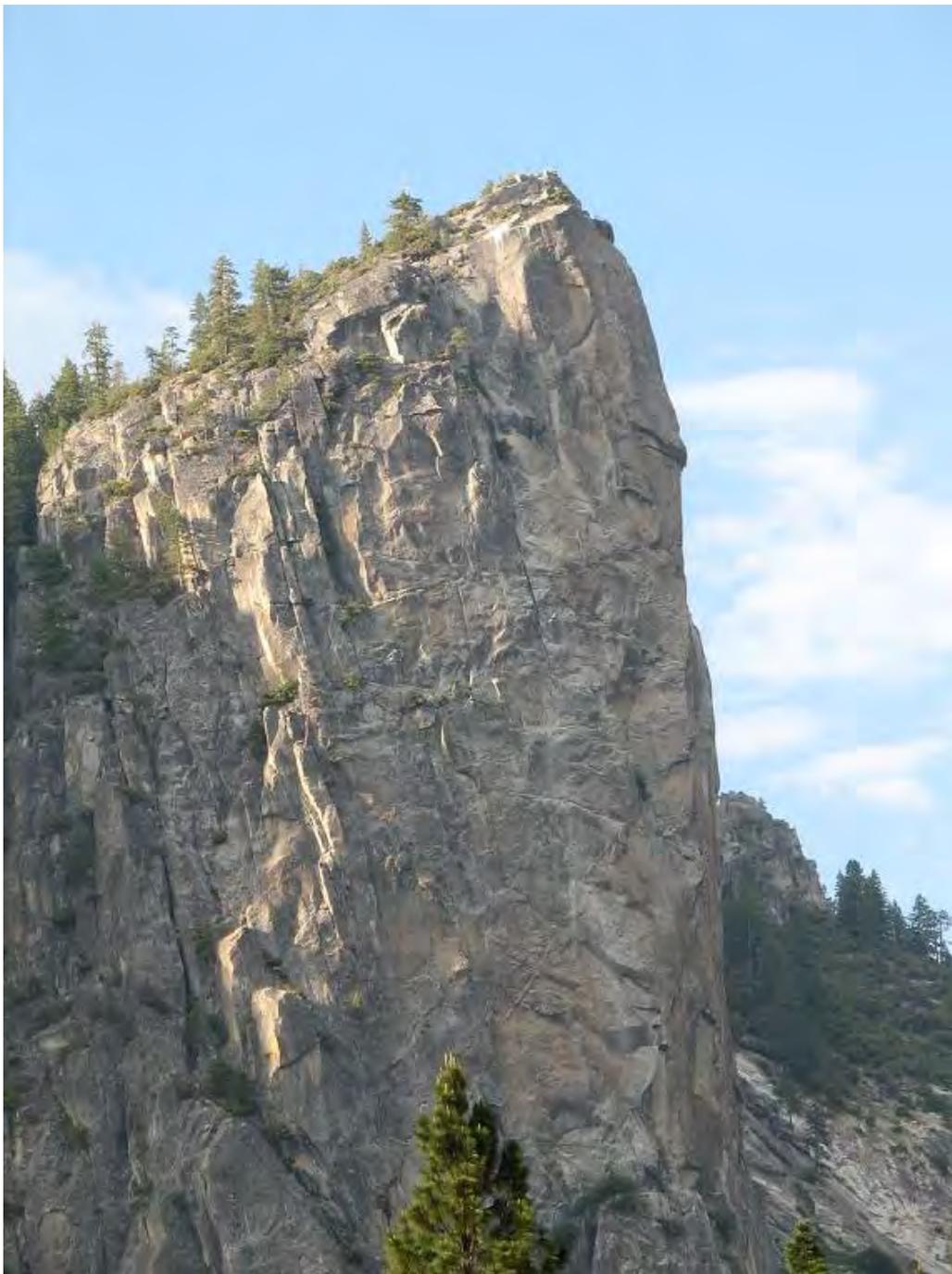
...Umm, would you  
believe go into a  
crevasse?

No Mom, I wouldn't  
actually go into a crevasse  
voluntarily, I'm smarter  
than that...

# PROWED

May 26 - June 3

Eric Fjellanger and Mike Zalewski



*Washington Column*

A few months back, Mike Zalewski asked me if I wanted to go down to Yosemite and climb a big wall. He had his sights set on The Prow on Washington Column. It sounded cool so I said yeah. We planned for a long time, in small chunks, and bought a ton and a half of gear, also in small chunks, and finally May 26 rolled around and at last the trip was upon us. We flew down to Oakland, rented a car, and drove to the Yosemite Valley.



*Nothing but sunshine and granite*

The place is beautiful. Really amazing. More rock than I've ever seen. Obviously El Capitan is stunning (the biggest granite monolith in the world, or so I'm told) but other than that there's still rock everywhere you look, waterfalls, green trees, meadows, wildlife, if you've never been you must go check it out. There are also lots of tourists. Families, frat boys, grandmas, mallrat teenagers... it's a zoo. It's really surreal to go up and spend a few days working your ass off trying to defy gravity, survive the ordeal, come down grimy, sweaty and exhausted and on the way back to the car encounter hordes of soccer moms and sorority chicks in high heels and miniskirts. And they look at you like "oh my god what are YOU doing here?" Which is probably the look we were giving them.



*This is The Captain. I'm sure you've met.*

Anyway, the plan was for us to do the route in 3 days, spending 2 nights on the wall and then another on top. Once we started looking harder though we revised it to spending one night at the bottom after fixing a couple pitches, then one night on the wall and one night on top. Sunday morning we got up, ate breakfast, and ferried a load to the base of the route. The approach was strenuous but short and by 10 am we were back at the car for round two. We grabbed some lunch and then headed up with everything else. At the base of the route there were some dudes up above us who appeared to be totally goofing around and we were rolling our eyes, thinking they were going to get on our route and screw us up. They apparently had some girlfriends hanging out in the trees below and we actually witnessed the following: (shouting) "HEY, I'M GOING TO THROW THIS PULLEY DOWN. TRY TO WATCH WHERE IT GOES, JIM WANTS TO TAKE IT BACK TO REI." Anyway, they turned out to not be on our route so it was all good.



*The Prow. You can follow our line up to the diamond-shaped shadowy roof in the very middle, then left and upwards along the lighter-colored streak.*



*Mike begins to righteously send*

Mike led pitch 1. Nothing special happened and before long we were both at the anchors. My turn to lead, I looked up at pitch 2. This was it, the one thing that had been freaking us out since January- it had been described to us as a total sketchfest, bad gear for 80 feet above a sloping ledge that would surely break many, many of your bones if you were to fall. Most of our planning and a big chunk of our gear buying was just in case this turned out to be bad. Looking at the damp slab leading to the thin angled corner, I thought about the possibility of placing a piton for the first time. I thought about bashing away at a copperhead with no clue what I was doing. I thought about clipping a Scream Aid to fixed mank and holding my breath. I thought about the little bundle we had brought "in case of sketchfest". I thought about where that stuff was...

“Oh man,” I said to Mike, “I left the goods downstairs.”

“Oh dude.” We just looked at each other.

“Well I’m not going down to get it.” I set off.

To me the pitch wasn't so bad- it probably was the crux of the route, but there was good fixed gear in at reasonable intervals so I wasn't really scared. More than usual.

We fixed the ropes and then rapped down to spend the night in the trees. The next morning we woke up, pounded a couple Starbucks doubleshots, and headed up for real. Nothing much happened this day other than a lot of sweat and a little bit of cursing. With the exception of a couple of snafus, Mike and I had our act together and things went smoothly. As expected, hauling was the crux for us- even our little single haul bag was hard to haul and we don't exactly have our hauling technique dialed.



*There is no way I was actually having this good a time*

Around 6 pm we were at the top of pitch 7, with one pitch to go to the terrace where we would spend the night. No problem, we had at least two and a half hours of good daylight and the next pitches didn't look too hard. Mike took off on lead and I was chillin' at the belay. Only it took a long time. Mike had to deal with a couple tricky moves, spent some time looking for a decent gear placement, thought he'd have to drive a piton and then found something else, went up out of sight, had a little routefinding adventure, and before we knew it darkness was descending. He got to the anchor though, and took a few minutes to redirect the lead rope around a big loose block that might have killed me (which I sincerely appreciated) and I started juggling up the line in the dark. Not the first time I've cleaned a pitch by headlamp and probably not the last. I got up to "Tapir Terrace" and we started setting up the portaledge. The terrace was really pretty disappointing, sloping in all kinds of directions and uneven, and the bolts were poorly positioned for the 'ledge (we ended up hanging it from just one of them- one bolt is all you need man!), but we got it put up eventually and climbed on. We were eating ravioli and pudding by 10 pm.



*Waking up is hard to do*

The next morning we got up, ate, packed everything and did it again. On the first pitch of the day, pitch 9, I had the lead and I was in the groove man, plugging and chugging. Up a nice crack, around the corner, into a nice even dihedral, up up up... then I started wondering when this thing was going to end. I wasn't seeing any bolts, I was getting hot and tired... how long is this thing anyway?

Mike yells up "Eric, where are you going? You've got 25 feet left!" Holy... what? Then he yells "The topo didn't have any bolts marked at the top of pitch 9!" Oh. Oh. Oh no. Those two pitons at the bottom of the dihedral must have been it. I look at where I am and it's a totally unsuitable place to build an anchor, just sloping crap and all my gear is the wrong size. I think about going down but man, it's been like 80 feet since I passed the "anchor". I look up and about 30 feet away is the bottom of the "fifth-class gully" that marks the halfway point of pitch 10. Well, there's something up there... I remember something about a "haulbag-eating flake" and look down, yup, there it is. I clip the haul line to a directional piece that will hopefully keep our haulbag out of the maw, and head upwards. Mike doesn't know what's going on and says, with some urgency, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING??" "I'm going up dude!" The line comes taut about five feet away from the inviting cracks and the ledge, and Mike goes "That's it!!" But rope stretch gets me there and I start building bombproof double-anchors in the gully. "We're gonna be okay Mike" I say just to make sure he knows we aren't screwed. I set everything up, Mike jugs and I haul, the directional piece keeps the haulbag out of the monster flake... shoot, if I had it to do over again I might do it the same way on purpose.



*We're gonna be okay!*



*Why are we doing this, again?*

Mainly it's kind of hard to make aid climbing sound interesting- it's just a lot of hard work and aggravation, to me it was like a really hard workout about four times in one day, while at all times some persistent gnome tries to tie your shoelaces together. There was a really nice belay anchor at the top of the next pitch and I belayed Mike half-asleep from the shade of a nice tree. The final pitch was mine and was largely a fourth-class rope drag epic- dragging the haul bag over that crap was one of the most strenuous things I've ever done, even with Mike helping out plenty from down below, but we got it done and we were on top around 5 pm. We enthusiastically shed all of our gear and just laid there for a while, enjoying the feeling of no longer being encumbered by forty pounds of crap trying to tie itself into knots around us with every move. We drank a ton of water and I ate extra food until I was overstuffed, and eventually we laid out the sleeping bags and passed out under the moonlight.



*On top!*



*Half Dome across the way*



*North Dome is beautiful and has some cool routes, too bad about the approach/descent*

The next morning was the descent down the renowned North Dome Gully. Details of this are omitted for the faint of heart but suffice it to say that it sticks out in my mind more than the climb itself.



*Mike is strong*

And... done! We collapsed back at the car and then went wading in the river just as a brief thunderstorm rolled through. A few hours, a couple pizzas and a shower later and we felt like new people. New sore people.

The rest of the trip was some relaxing, some beer drinking, some climbing... the next morning we went out to the meadow in front of El Cap to look for Bob, Ryan and Jesiah who we thought were on the Nose, but turned out to be in Curry Village showering at the time. We met up with them and hung out, ate some bacon, played hacky sack, stared at girls... that kind of thing. Friday Mike and I climbed a couple of routes including Bishop's Terrace (5.8 and "one of the best hand cracks in the valley") and a 5.10a offwidth that totally worked me over and left my knee and my ankle bloody (AWESOME). Saturday we climbed Nutcracker which was a really great 5-pitch 5.8 route.



*Lying back on Nutcracker*

And then we drove back to Oakland. Sunday we flew home.



*So long, Yosemite!*

# Chasing the Hundred Highest Windy Peak

Bernie & Shella (scribe) Knoll

Bernie and I found ourselves earlier this month (when the weather was nice) with yet another free weekend. My leg was still tired from Abernathy (just the week before) so we contemplated what peak we could get that was fairly easy – Ah, Windy Peak! There is a trail to the top. Good!

The longest part of this peak is the drive! What a drive it is! Windy Peak has to be the furthest northeast hundred highest peak! At the top of the peak, you are only about 10 miles south of the Canadian Boarder!



So, Friday afternoon I rode my bike from Seattle (East Marginal Way) to Auburn where Bernie was waiting with the truck. (Yes, I thought I needed more exercise!) We were loaded and ready to go; up Hwy 18, over Snoqualmie pass, over Blewitt pass, thru Wenatchee, and up Hwy 97. (Did I say it was a long drive?) We made it almost to Okanogan – just before Okanogan where Hwy 20 meet's Hwy 97 there is a campground called Alta Vista. Sounds pleasant huh? It is, as long as you don't have a crowd of teenagers who decide at midnight to have their bon fire and party right next to your tent! So much for peace and quiet.

Morning came and we headed out to Tonasket, where we would head into the hills, past Loomis, past the last fences where the cows were penned in, up, up, up. Yep, the beauty of this trail head is you get to start above 5,000 feet!

It was already a hot morning, and we knew it was going to be a hot day. That was okay, we knew we would be following a creek all the way, so plenty of water. Our first hurdle however was finding the right trail head. The book we had described the trail as the Windy Creek Trail – that is not what the sign says at the outhouse! But we were in the right place. The first observation one will make today at the trail head, is the simple fact that everything is burned. We thought at first it was a small burn, later we found out that this was part of the Passayten burn last year, which began in Winthrop and ended just about where we were!

Well, we loaded up our packs, got lunch etc. and after talking with Boarder Patrol headed out. It proved to be an interesting day – if any of you have climbed Windy Peak, you probably remember how beautiful the forest was, the under story lush and green, probably lots of flowers, bird, elk, and deer?



Well, I'm here to tell ya, that has ceased to exist. First, the trail is faint and burned, as is the entire forest for the whole 5 miles to the peak! Second, there are no furry creatures to be seen. Not one elk, deer, chipmunk, squirrel or bird. It was quiet. Real quiet. We walked past the burned remains of trees, only to find seconds later those tree's falling behind us! That was a bit startling. The message, be careful where you step or what you step on, as everything is burned to the ground.



We found places where it burned so hot, the fallen trees left ghostly white ash marks. There were patches of green – but those were few and far between. All in all, the sun beat down upon us because the canopy was gone; the trail was non-existent in places. I had never seen dirt burn before. The rocks were peeling from the heat that they had experience 10 months earlier. It was a long and quiet walk, a bit sobering actually.

After several hours we reached the shoulder to the summit ridge, and followed that on up. True, there is a trail to the top! We made it. Of course we weren't alone. Summiting before us was a Marmot! Laying on the rock, looking down on us. Bernie snapped a quick picture before he scurried off. Then we were on top – the view was amazing. We played name that peak and marveled at the amount of devastation the fire left.

After signing the registry, eating lunch and getting our summit pictures, we headed back down. I thought it was funny, in the summit registry, Eric Hoffman had left a note "First peak after I broke my leg." I thought, ha, second peak since my knee surgery! How I could relate to his elation of just being able to climb again!



We made it back to the truck without incident – of course the mosquitos are horrendous this time of the year! We realized quickly that camping at "Swamp Creek" was going to be a NO GO! Matt Mansfield had arrived (Bernie had mentioned to him what we were climbing and he said he may "come and find us!") and left us a note on the truck. We never saw him on the "trail" and thought it was weird that we didn't see him, as there is no vegetation to impact line of sight! Well we left him a note back stating that we were going to camp at Spectacle Lake campground and headed out. It had been a long day – but a good day. We did 10 miles in just about 6 hours, which for my leg that was great progress!!

Spectacle Lake has good camping, showers (which is a must after being in the burn all day!) and quiet! The brauts were great, the beer better! Matt eventually found us – hot and tired from his excursion. His is a tale better left told by him!

Night settled in. The crickets began signing, the sound of the sprinklers nearby doing their tsk tsk tsk tsssss, tsk tsk tsk sounds; lying in the tent staring at the stars, feeling slightly tired from the day, and the final thought before my eyes closed, "God, its good to be in the mountains again!"



---

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# CONSERVATION CORNER



In recent months (and most of my tenure for that matter), your Boealps Conservation chair has been doing less than a sad-eyed bloodhound on a flea-ridden couch on a porch on a hot July day in North Carolina. But I've arise from the ashes, and a quick summary of the joys of trail maintenance:

## Trail maintenance

On Sunday, June 10, I broke a seven-year spell of doing absolutely no trail maintenance – and at the end of the day, I wondered why it had taken so long. I joined the Basic Climbing Class's trail maintenance project, orchestrated by the Darrington Ranger Station. After meeting at said ranger station at 8am, we got a thorough briefing of the tools used in trail maintenance, then drove for almost an hour to the Lost Creek Ridge trail, close to the N. Fork of the Sauk River. With an armada of lopers, hand saws, and bush whips, we cut, sawed, and whacked our way to maintain about the first mile of trail. And it was not only sheer pleasure (bad pun fully intended) to make quick work of the trail but also to meet some of the BCC students and team leaders, including Terry "Spidey" Hill. And I learned a lot: Foot bridges, particularly in damp environments, are an ideal substrate for verdant patches of moss to grow on the top and sides of the bridges, which weakens and erodes the wood, meaning more maintenance work. In addition, the water paths under the bridges tend to get choked with debris, also contributing to bridge degradation, and digging out rocks and rotted logs was wonderfully primitive work.

After this part of the trail was completed, we received bonus work by walking about ¼ mile to the Trail of Cedars, a family-friendly trail featuring some 800 year old + cedars, the largest and most magnificent I have ever seen anywhere. We hacked the remarkably short ½ mile trail into usable shape, and called it a day around 2:30pm. We stopped by the spectacular N. Sauk River Falls trail to witness the early June runoff, and then off to the former Backwoods Café in Darrington for an early dinner. We had escaped with just light rain for a short spell during the day, not surprising for the weather convergence zone known as Darrington.

Yes, definitely a short day, but it was an energizing experience and a great deal of fun. The Forest Service was quick to inform everyone that two days of trail maintenance = one Northwest Forest Pass, good for one year from the month of issue. And they encouraged combining the receipts from one day of trail maintenance from two individuals, thereby earning one Northwest Forest Pass.

So it's a goal to do one day of trail maintenance per year (and better yet, two days to earn the Northwest Forest Pass). Quick math shows that a \$30 Northwest Forest Pass in exchange for two days of trail maintenance (assuming an eight-hour day, which it rarely is) comes to earning the equivalent of \$1.875/hour, not exactly a living wage. But the point is that our understanding of the environment and conservation issues is increased significantly by exposure to the environment – and that means getting involved. Washington Trails Association, a collection of some of the happiest nutcases I've met, has been quick to point out that what we need to do is get people to first get on the trails, and then consider trail maintenance thereafter; the hierarchy is to first see the outdoors, and then get inspired to get involved in the conservation, and it's not as easy to do that the other way around.

Big thanks to Tim Hudson, who coordinated the BCC trail maintenance project this year, and the Darrington Ranger Station for the fine orchestration of the day's events.

**How to get involved:** For more information on trail projects:

Washington Trails Association  
[www.wta.org](http://www.wta.org)  
(206)625-1367

Darrington Ranger Station  
(360)436-1155

Conservation issues or ideas? Contact me. Sincerely,

Len Kannapell  
Boealps Conservation Chair

# BOEALPS AND THE COMMUNITY

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## 3 Summits for Nepal's Children



Hello fellow alpinists,

Last year I co-founded 3 Summits for Nepal's Children with my friend and colleague, Jwalant Gurung, as a way to give back to one of the communities that I am actively doing business in. Fellow BoeAlps member, Bill Harrison is also on our advisory board. 3 Summits is a benefit climb of Mt. Baker and Mt. Rainier in Washington State in which participants raise money to benefit children's charities in Nepal (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit is a glacier climbing skill seminar in May and June).

I strongly believe in corporate social responsibility and giving back to the communities that give so much to me (if you don't know, my company Red Lantern Journeys arranges tour and adventure travel packages in Asia, including treks in Nepal). I also want to see the impact that my donations have. Last December, I visited Kathmandu to visit [Mitrata](#), the orphanage we raised money for, to see the work they are doing. The \$8,000 that we raised last year had a direct impact on their ability to feed, cloth, house, and educate the over 40 children of the orphanage with children who range from 4 to 16 year's old.

While in Kathmandu I also visited a few other non-profit organizations, and this year we decided to support another organization called the Children's Education and Development Center in Kathmandu. Also known as the Contact Center, it goes out into the community and looks for disadvantaged children who are not in school, then provides them with non-formal education and the basic skills necessary to allow them to enroll in schools that provide "formal" education.

**Please join us!** We are climbing Mt. Baker this weekend, but it is not too late to sign up for **Mt. Rainier on July 14 and 15**. Visit our web site for more information: [3 Summits](#).

If you can't join us, please consider sponsoring my climbs with a donation. I understand that charitable giving is a very personal decision and any amount would be very much appreciated. You choose which organization you would like to support, either Mitrata or the Children's Education and Development Center.

Sponsorship checks should be made out to either "**Mitrata - Nepal Foundation for Children**" or "**Nepal Seattle Society**" (if you wish to support Children's Education and Development Center) and mailed to:

Ambrose Bittner  
1000 N. Northlake Way, Suite H  
Seattle, WA 98103

Your donations are tax deductible as these are registered 501c(3) non-profit organizations. 100% of your donation goes directly to the organization you choose to support.

Please contact me with questions. Thanks,

Ambrose  
Former President of Boealps (1988)  
Currently head instructor of the Boealps Intermediate Climbing Class

---

Ambrose Bittner  
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## When A Man climbs a Mountain

(Tune of "When A Man Climbs a mountain" by: Percy Sledge)

When a man climbs a mountain  
Can't keep his mind on nothing else  
He'll push all day  
Just to touch summit ground  
If it is tough, it does not matter  
He's not complaining  
Pulls away from his teammates  
If they slow him down

When a man climbs a mountain  
Spend his very last dime  
To buy the gear he so desperately needs  
He'd give up all of his comfort  
Sleep out in the rain  
If it takes more than just one day

Well, this man loves the mountains  
Gives them all that he has  
Tryin' to reach yet another summit  
Straight up from the highest pass

When a man climbs a mountain  
Down deep in his soul  
It can bring him such create elation  
Only a climber can know  
Just what it feels like  
To ascend toward the sun

When a man climbs a mountain  
She becomes his mistress  
He can never love some other girl  
Yes when a man climbs a mountain  
I know exactly how he feels  
'Cause Mountains, Mountains, you are my world

When a man climbs a mountain  
I know exactly how he feels .....

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

*" I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path. Where the fear has gone there will be nothing. Only I will remain. "*

*- Frank Herbert, Bene Gesserit Litany Against Fear, "Dune"*

---

## COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...

- ➔ *THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*
- ➔ *YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*
- ➔ *THE ANSWER TO THE ULTIMATE QUESTION OF LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND ALL ELSE*
- ➔ *BREAKING NEWS REGARDING THE FATE OF SVEN YAGERMEISTER*
- ➔ *AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 23 JULY 2007...*

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BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                      \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

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*If you have any submissions—anything  
vaguely mountaineering or outdoors  
related will do—email them to us at  
editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a  
call (our numbers are  
on the front cover)  
and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

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AUGUST 2007

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GENERAL MEETING**

**BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, 1 August, 18:30**

**AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG  
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The map shows the Boeing Field area with various buildings and landmarks. Key locations include Boeing Flight Test & Operations, Boeing Field, Pedestrian Tunnel, Fire Station and Guard Dispatch Center, King County Fire Station and FAA Tower, and King County Airport International Terminal Building. The meeting location is marked as Boeing 2-22 Bldg at 7755 E Marginal Wy S.

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

The August General Meeting will feature Kenny Downs recounting a trip to Ecuador with Fred Becky, pizza! and planning for some summer climbs.

The Camp Muir BBQ will be coming up Aug. 25.

The fall campout will be Friday and Saturday nights this year at Leavenworth. Check out the announcement.

This issue of the Echo features exciting trip reports from Boealpers Tony Oljenecki on an Ecuador trip and Oscar Montoya on a Liberty Ridge trip and former Boealper Todd Bauck on a solo El Capitan climb.

A couple of spots are available on a trip to British Columbia's West Coast Trail.  
A Bhutan expedition is being planned by Bill Harrision.

We have the sad news that Jorg Pilchowski, a recent BCC grad, has passed away.

A Petzl caribiner recall is noted in the Gear Dork's corner.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, particularly former Boealpers who sent in trip reports this month, Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
Rich



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## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 5
BOEALPS EVENTS	
Boealps Fall Campout.....	p. 6
Camp Muir BBQ.....	p. 6
Summer Climb Series.....	p. 7
West Coast Trail Trip.....	p. 8
Expedition Planning: Bhutan Snowman Trek.....	p. 9
REPORTS	
<i>Ecuador Volcanos</i> , by Tony Oljenecki.....	p. 10
<i>Tangerine Route on El Capitan</i> , by Todd Bauk.....	p. 15
<i>Liberty Ridge</i> , by Oscar Montoya.....	p. 17
<i>Mt. Etna, Italy</i> , by Rich Humbert.....	p. 23
GEAR DORK'S CORNER.....	p. 26
IN MEMORIAM - JORG PILCHOWSKI.....	p. 38
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 30
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 31

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>August</b>			<b>1</b> Gen. Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> BRC Squamish ←
<b>5</b> →	<b>6</b> ICC Lecture 10	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> ICC Alpine 4 ←
<b>12</b> →	<b>13</b> BRC Lecture 4	<b>14</b> Board Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> BRC Grad Climb ←
<b>19</b> → Father's Day	<b>20</b> ICC Lecture 11	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Muir BBO ICC Grad Climb
<b>26</b> →	<b>27</b> Echo Deadline	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2007</b>

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>September</b>						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> General Meeting (Election)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Board Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Fall Campout	<b>15</b> Fall Campout
<b>16</b> Fall Campout	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Echo Deadline	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>						<b>2007</b>

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **BCC CHIEF INSTRUCTOR WANTED !!!**

Regrettably, at the April Boealps board meeting Jerry Baillie, our long time BCC chief instructor, informed the board that he has decided to step down next year. Jerry has agreed to help prepare the person attempting to fill his shoes. In order to ensure we have a smooth transition we need to identify candidates for the chief instructor position as soon as possible.

If you are interested in the chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified. According to Jerry, the position is much more dependent upon organizational and personality skills, rather than actual climbing skills; so please don't feel that you have to be the best or most experienced climber to be a serious candidate.

...

## **Boealps Classes**

The Basic Rock Climbing Class and Intermediate climbing classes will be finishing in August. Any trip reports would be appreciated....

...

## **AGRIS MORUSS FUND**

For those new members who may not be aware of it, or those faithful members who may have forgotten, The Agris Moruss Fund is still alive and well and accessible to members. The Fund was created in the late 80's to uphold the memory and spirit of a beloved BoeAlpS instructor and awards grants yearly to expeditions organized by BoeAlpS members.

If you are planning such a trip and would like to apply for a grant from the Agris Moruss fund, please contact any of the BoeAlpS Board members or the fund's Board of Trustees (see Echo front page for contact information).

...

## **THE ECHO ARCHIVES**

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

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## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14 August 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

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## **SEPTEMBER ELECTIONS**

The election of a new set of Boealps officers will happen in September. Anyone with interest in a Board position is encouraged to run.

# Boealps Fall Campout!

Sept 14-16

Leavenworth - 8 Mile Campground

The club has reserved the campground for Friday and Saturday night.

There WILL be a rock climbing seminar this year! If you didn't make the BRC and would still like to go over the basics from their basic weekend, this is the campout for you!!! Mike Zalewski and folks are putting together a one day seminar based on his basic skills weekend. This should be great, so you are going to want to sign up early for this one! The bonus is - Saturday night the club will be providing hamburgers and hopefully a little more for grilling and eating. So put this on your calendar!!

If you are interested in participating in the Rock Seminar please contact Mike Zalewski ([Michael.j.zalewski@boeing.com](mailto:Michael.j.zalewski@boeing.com)) or Shella Knoll ([shellaknoll@yahoo.com](mailto:shellaknoll@yahoo.com)).

## Camp Muir BBQ

August 25th

Ever wonder what it might be like to BBQ at 10,000 feet?

Well, the burgers taste great, though it takes a bit longer to get them grilled!

This is a fun event that was thought up four years ago by the 2003 Black Team. That year we hiked up to Muir, BBQ burgers and dogs, and pretty much were the envy of climbers hanging out at the huts!

**Current List: Shella & Bernie Knoll, Kathleen Collins (& her friend Megan), Kenny Downs (possibly), Moselle Horiuchi, Dirk Visser (possibly) - YOUR NAME GOES HERE**

Route: Muir Snowfield

Elevation: 10,000 ft (roughly)

Equipment: Pack big enough to carry some food. Ice Axe can be handy, Treking Poles are wonderful.

Difficulty: snow slogging

Experience: Can you walk in the snow?

Contact: Shella or Bernie Knoll @ [bernieandshella@yahoo.com](mailto:bernieandshella@yahoo.com)

# Summer Climb Series

## **Buckner August 3rd**

2 Day Trip near Marblemount. Scramble route

Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: (425) 736-0501

## **Slam! Kimtah, Cosho & Katsuk August 24 OR Sept 14**

Near Rainy Pass, Hwy 20. 3-4 Day Trip or 2 separate trips?

Scramble Routes

Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: (425) 736-0501

## **Logan & Stormking Sept 7th**

4 Day trip near Stehekin

Scramble Route

Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: (425) 736-0501

## **Robinson October 5**

2 Day trip

Scramble Route

Contact: Kenny Downs @ kenneth.m.downs@yahoo.com or Cell: (425) 736-0501

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# West Coast Trail Trip Announcement



A group of BoeAlps members are hiking the West Coast Trail on Vancouver Island leaving Seattle September 1<sup>st</sup> and returning September 8th. We are looking for one or two more people to join our group of eight.



The West Coast Trail, includes the section of coast southeast of Barkley Sound on Vancouver Island, BC between the villages of Bamfield and Port Renfrew. This 25,640 hectare strip contains the 75 kilometre (46 mile) historic West Coast Trail constructed for the rescue of shipwrecked mariners.

This trail largely retraces an old telegraph route first established in 1890 and follows a rugged shoreline where approximately 66 ships have met their demise along this stretch of the "Graveyard of the Pacific". The topography ranges from sandy beaches to rocky headlands and wide sandstone ledges. Caves, arches, tidal pools and waterfalls add variety to the shoreline.



If you are interested please contact Cheryl Meyers at [cherylmeyers101@hotmail.com](mailto:cherylmeyers101@hotmail.com).

[www.westcoasttrailbc.com](http://www.westcoasttrailbc.com)

## EXPEDITION PLANNING

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### Bhutan Snowman Trek 2007 Expedition

The expedition schedule is October 8<sup>th</sup> to Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 2007. Estimated cost is \$6,400, which includes airfare from Seattle to Paro, Bhutan and all in country costs, such as transportation, hotels, food, visa charge and guide service.

The Snowman extends along the northern remote border of Bhutan and Tibet. The mountain scenery along trek is some of the most beautiful in the world. The country of Bhutan is rarely visited by outsiders and most of its territory is pristine wilderness with exotic forests and wildlife.

For additional information on Bhutan, just goggle snowman trek.

For additional information on this trip contact Bill Harrison at (206) 533-6388 or email me at [willyle@yahoo.com](mailto:willyle@yahoo.com)

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## Climbing Ecuador Volcanoes

### Part 1 - Climbing Ruminahui and Cotopaxi

December 2006, Ecuador

By Tony Olejnicki, BOEALPS

#### Introduction

The Gods of Boeing have been very kind and understanding to my climbing needs over last 5 and ½ years allowing me to do some extraordinary climbing by any standards. I was also very lucky with my climbing buddies; I have hooked up for various climbs with very good climbers and for most part interesting people as well. In particularly looking back to my Seattle times from Brisbane, I really appreciate the mountaineering and climbing community in Seattle; the commitment and skill of Seattle and BC climbers is unparalleled. So I was lucky this winter as well. I finished with Boeing just before Christmas and flew to Quito on December 16th for 6 weeks of climbing in Ecuador's sierras. I definitely recommend a trip to Ecuador. The country is of the extraordinary beauty, reasonably high volcanoes (20,000'), pleasant climate and extremely diverse ecology and diverse ethnic cultures and very proud and friendly people. The country is generally very inexpensive for an US tourist and very easy to move around without being exposed to constant abuse as a 'Gringo' like in some other Latino countries and they also use the US \$ as their currency.

The climbing is also very easy from technical aspect, yet very enjoyable and satisfying and should be easily accessible to most Boealpers with an experience in Cascades without any need to hire a guide. The routes described in the guidebook compiled by Yossi Brain are overrated by 10-20°; whereby most of the routes are around 45° or less, with some some 10-30ft sections being 55° – 60° .

#### Logistics

Ecuador is easily accessible from the USA with many airlines but from Seattle Continental provides convenient connection to Quito via Houston. Arrival to Quito is hectic. Plane arrives at 11pm, passport control and customs are easy and non-invasive. My climbing buddy managed even to get in a bag of marijuana from Seattle. Lucky I guess, I cannot imagine jails would be very nice in Ecuador. There is a throng of people awaiting their family and friends arriving from the USA and taxi drivers jostle for customers. Once in the cab however all becomes peaceful again and usually you will not get ripped off by the cab driver, however it doesn't hurt to be mindful of your money. The taxi took me to the hotel, which I booked on-line. The room was \$30 and \$6 tax, which was not advertised. Hotel Casa del Sol was right in the center of town, which the taxi driver called 'Gringolandia'. It is very western, with discos, multitude of restaurants of any type, very international. Quito is easy to move around and organize your touristy and climbing things. Most of people would speak English of various levels, certainly young people are likely to speak some English but speaking Spanish helps in particularly if you go half way to



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Quito Cathedral



In Quito



In Quito



House of Guyasamin



Guyasamin paintings in Capilla del Hombre

meet with your interlocutor language. Quito is an interesting colonial city with tremendous Spanish colonial architecture. It is a cultural center of Ecuador with great museums and great artists including the most famous Guayasamin with his 'Chapel of Humanity'. Most of climbs can be done from Quito, Otavalo and Riobamba. Catching public buses is cheap, safe and convenient, although somewhat overwhelming and hectic in the beginning. There is a multitude of operators; basically you purchase the bus, put the sign and you are

a bus company. So there are many of them competing and keeping fares low. It takes the bus some time to leave the town as they try to pick-up as many passengers as possible to make the trip profitable. There is an organizer on the bus, who ensures that passengers are not left stranded and that all seats are sold. He usually hangs from the door enticing passengers, while the bus keeps moving. The bus never stops completely for passengers to get off, just slows down and they just jump on and off, it is really an amazing spectacle and what is interesting no one gets hurt. The bus will stop along the route virtually anywhere you wish.

Arriving to Quito after 4hrs flight from Houston was a shock to the system due to 9000' of elevation, but even worse was arriving on 2hrs flight from Galapagos. It took me 3 days to fully acclimatize. I spent two days just walking slowly through Quito without any energy. On 3rd day I took a cable car to 14000ft and hiked to the top of Pichincha, 16000ft volcano towering Quito. This was my acclimatization before 1st trip. This is really a nice thing about climbing Ecuador that all is so close and convenient.

**Ruminahui (17,000ft) and Cotopaxi (19,000ft).**

Everybody going to Ecuador wants to climb Cotopaxi. It is indeed very nice looking mountain and very simple to climb. Hence guides drag 100s of people to the top. I decided to do it slightly different way approaching it from west via neighboring Ruminahui.



**Cotopaxi summit**



**Cotopaxi summit**



**Cotopaxi summit**



**Illinizas from Cotopaxi summit**

I took the bus to Machachi (1hr south from Quito). The trip was chaotic at the start while they were trying to fill the bus with the driver looking for passengers, the conductor hanging from the front door and yelling the destination, jumping on and off, while the bus kept moving very slowly. Once left Quito however it was doing quite a good pace and may be

even to good for the road and the bus itself.

In Machachi and I found a truck to get me to the village some 4km called Panceleo.

The guidebook said to turn right past the school and the purple building, which was nowhere to be found. We agreed to \$3 with the driver and he was good to ask locals about the path to Ruminahui. They pointed to a muddy track.

I asked driver to have a go at it. It was supposed to lead to the trailhead. We went up about 1km and due to the mud and the steepness it became too difficult for the truck. I paid the driver \$6 for his effort and started up a steep and muddy track.

It was drizzling and with a heavy pack it was a hard slog from 11,000ft to 13,000ft. I carried a rope to rappel from Ruminahui. Eventually I got to the point, which matched a description of the trailhead. It was drizzling however and the fog set in so I could not see anything. I decided to pitch the tent and wait for next day. I ate some cold food and drank some water as I could not cook inside the tent. I decided to take Black Diamond Superlite tent and it was a huge mistake. It is not as advertised, it leaked badly, so the next day I was wet.



I got up early and started hiking. It supposed to be up on the ridge and to the pass. I climbed the ridge and when the weather cleared for the moment I realized I was on a wrong ridge. So back down 400ft and up on a very steep ridge, I got ½ way and the weather closed on me again. I had no choice but to pitch the tent on the ridge trying to shelter from the bad weather, another wet night. The weather cleared at 8pm with tremendous views on Illinizas and I realized I was on another wrong ridge, but at least I saw the correct ridge across the valley.

The following day I made down to the valley 500ft and climbed a steep grassy slope to a correct ridge now and was finally on the trail. It took me to the pass at 15,500ft and I started climbing Ruminahui South peak. The weather closed again on me, it started raining and the rock was really wet. It was low class 5 but I was not sure of down climbing it in the rain, so I decided to abandon the mission and continue to Cotopaxi, I was running out of time as well.

I took the east ridge and started down-climbing to towards Cotopaxi. I got a glimpse of it at one stage before the weather closed on me. I followed the trail so I was confident that I was on the right track. However I lost the track in the fog and found myself navigating on features, which were very confusing. The volcanic soil is very soft and fragile and creeks form deep, narrow and steep gorges overgrown by vegetation, so it is only possible to cross them at the beginning of the creek before it carves the gorge too deep. I found myself backtracking the creek and lost valuable time, so there was another night in the wilderness without hot drink. Nevertheless the views were very spectacular and it was all worth it.

I got up next day and started descending and eventually got to the road. I was heading to the lake below Cotopaxi and all sounded like a piece of cake. I judged 3km to the lake but it was a deception, I turned a wrong way. After realizing that it was too late to turn back and I decided to continue to Pan Americana highway and catch the lift to the trailhead of Cotopaxi.

The track was beautiful and 10mi hike out to the Pan Americana turned out to be very rewarding in a way. The road went through tremendous gorges carved by various creeks and went through wilderness restricted to camping, but I was not concerned about it as I was heading out of the reserve. Eventually I got to Pan-Americana totally wet and haggard pilgrim.

I stopped by local road BBQ, they had few dead animals on the gill looking like rats. I could not understand what these people were telling me in their dialect, so I pointed to something looking like a rabbit, it wasn't too bad. I talked to Indian woman about the transportation to Cotopaxi; she arranged a truck for \$40. and I accepted as I did not have another choice.

We had few problems at the park entry because the gate was officially closed but \$10 fee opened the gate. After 1hr we eventually arrived to the car park. One can see the Cotopaxi Refugio from the car park; it looks so close but it took 40minutes of a hard slog to concur 1000ft at these elevation; carrying heavy pack full of wet gear made it much harder and slower then expected.

The Refugio was reasonably full, there were few groups. I came across a guide from Bellingham (AAI) with a group of American tourists. He was very unfriendly. American guides usually don't like soloists, I guess it makes them look stupid with clients. He told them not to talk to me. There were however Ecuadorian guides, who were very pleasant. The Refugio at Cotopaxi is very new and very nice, with cooking facilities so I finally was able to have a hot diner and hot cup of tea. It is amazing how deprivation improves taste of dehydrated food.

All guided tours got up at midnight, so I did not have long sleep, however when they all left, I managed 3hrs of sleep, got up at 3am and had nice breakfast; all food the guides brought for their customers was untouched as most of them were too sick to eat breakfast. I started at 4am and met lots of sick looking people coming down without summiting. I overtook most of rope teams before the summit and summited at 7am. The climb was very nice with cloudless sunrise. In January there is lots of snow so the route is just a walk up on the snow, steep in places. I realized that the whole trip will be snow climbs rather than ice climbs. The ice climbing happens in Ecuador in May-September timeframe, when there are lots of sunny days with no snowfall and cold night freeing melting snow. The down climb was uneventful; I arrived at the Refugio at 10am. The hut attendant organized a transportation for \$25 to the Panamericana.

It was Boxing day and all busses were full and refused to stop, so I hired the truck to take me to Quito. It was a very interesting trip. The Boxing day in Ecuador is a charity day. Lots of poor people were hanging along the road waiting for the charity of passing 'wealthy' travelers. I don't have an opinion on that but it was strange and unusual as well as it looked unsafe for bystanders but I did not see any road kill so it obviously works.

I was glad to be back in Quito in a comfortable hotel Fuente del Piedra to dry out, rest and meet my climbing buddy arriving from Seattle after Christmas.



**Hotel Fuente de IPiedra**

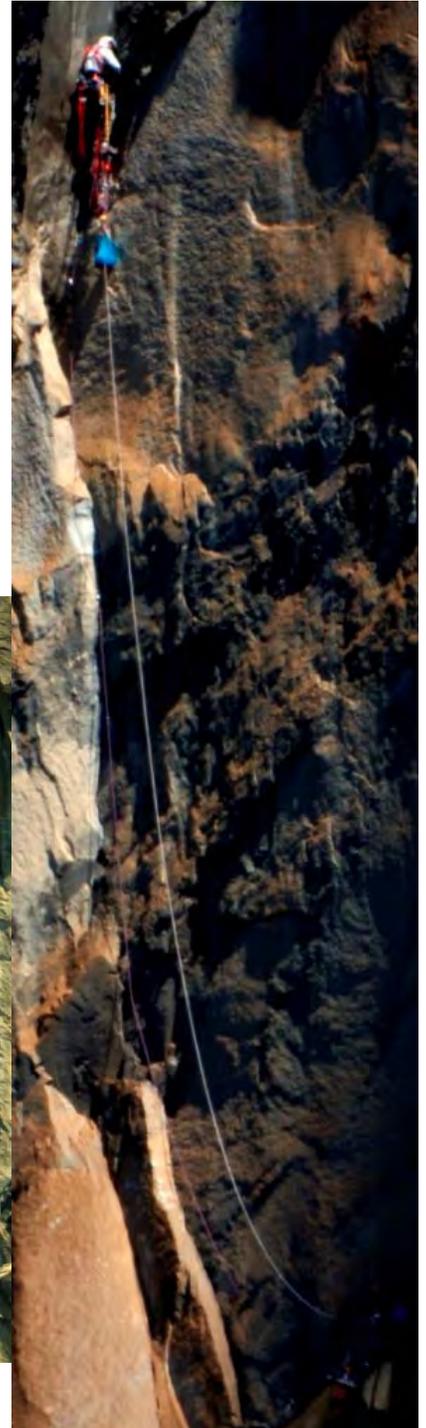
**Tangerine Trip**  
Grade VI, C3+, 5.7R  
Soloist: Todd Bauck

Tangerine Trip is one of the trad routes on El Capitan. It is a great choice for a soloist as it is very overhung which means your pig is not likely to get stuck while hauling. So what does it take to solo a big wall? Three things: Short memory, stubbornness, and I forget the other trait.

I won't write much about hauling loads to the base and fixing the first pitch as I am trying to block out those memories. Suffice it to say it was a pain. There was a group of nine Koreans at the base ahead of me. Three of them were doing Lost in America and six were doing Aurora. This blocked up the two starts to Tangerine Trip. I ended up hauling two loads and doing the first pitch late after they had left for the day.

I spent another two days fixing, ferrying loads to the base and talking to Tom Evans. Tom is a retired teacher who takes pictures of climbers on El Cap as a hobby. He has a daily blog on the Super Topo website that allowed my wife to keep track of me. This was a big bonus since I ended up getting down half a day late.

My first day on the wall, I ended up ferrying another load to the base, juggling 330' of fixed line with my final load (uggh), and leading the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch. The 5<sup>th</sup> pitch is a classic rising traverse. Since it was a rising traverse, I could not back clean as I would have to re-aid that pitch when cleaning. I ended up splitting that pitch into two pitches as I ran low on gear. My cam hooks made repeated appearances on this pitch. A cam hook is an "L" shaped piece of metal that holds body weight in very narrow cracks – it offers nothing in terms of protection after you de-weight it; it would usually fall out when I got on the next piece. String a few cam hook moves in a row, and the pucker factor tends to rise.



**Leading the classic Pitch 5 Traverse**

**Pitch 10**

From the second day on, I entered a routine where I climbed two pitches a day:

Lead a pitch (made harder by the fact that I was on self belay)

At the next anchor, set up the haul and lead lines

Rappel the haul line and jug sideways to get back to the previous anchor

Lower out the pig

Clean the pitch

Haul the pig

Get set up for the next pitch

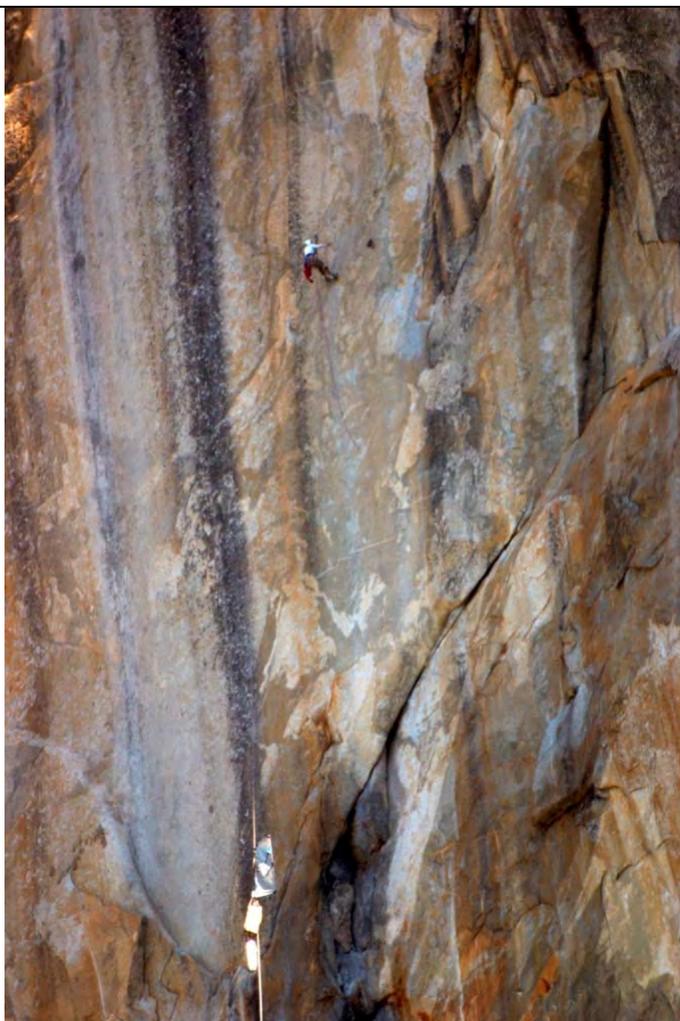
The Koreans on Aurora were now two teams of three climbers. Only the top team seemed to be doing the leading. The lower team was content to jug the lines the lead team put up that day. They were having fun, so why not! They were only about 100' away from me most of the time. They were friendly, but we did not talk much because of the language barrier. I could always tell when the top team was hauling. They did a synchronized two-person haul where the top person body-hauled and the lower person acted as a counter weight. One would start a chant and the other would finish it with a flourish and their three pigs would rise up about two feet.

The 13<sup>th</sup> pitch was unlucky for me. I dropped my only yellow alien and wrenched a small muscle in my back. The back strain was rather acute and caused me to stop early that day. On subsequent days, I ended up moving slower to avoid aggravating it more.

The last two pitches of Aurora and Tangerine Trip are shared. I was trying to get ahead of the Koreans before the merge, but it seemed like every pitch had something that slowed me down. It turned out that I should not have been concerned; the lead Korean team had a burst of speed near the top and then brought up the second team so we never were waiting for each other. Although we did share an anchor at the top of pitch 16.



**Pitch 13 – The Unlucky Lead**



**Cleaning Pitch 15 – No Chance of the Pig Getting Stuck Here**

I was secretly dreading the 17<sup>th</sup> pitch. It is rated C2 / 5.7R. 5.7R is scary when you are a soloist and have to belay yourself. It turns out that I should not have worried, the 5.7 was easy. This brought me to the only good ledge on the entire route. It was really nice to take off the harness after wearing it continuously for five days. One more quick pitch the next day brought me to the top.

I managed to do the whole route without using the hammer. Even though I was not going as fast as I would have liked, a hammerless ascent with an injury is still an accomplishment. The hike down was a pain. I could not carry all my gear in one load and ended up shuttling two loads. But showers and all you can eat buffet (turns out I can eat a lot) kept me going.

## **Mount Rainier – Liberty Ridge**

### **By: Oscar Montoya**

From July 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Meter, Paul Cook and I climbed Liberty Ridge on Rainier in 3 days. I will make my story short, since there is plenty of information in guide books on how to climb the route along with very good route descriptions. However my main purpose is to give a couple of pointers on how to climb this route so as to avoid an epic.

After climbing Mount Rainier via the DC route on the summer of 2006, I decided that climbing Liberty Ridge would be a very good challenge. After all, I had always heard of Liberty Ridge as a very good place to get used to a very sustained route via one of the most impressive volcanoes in the cascades. However I had always been scared of the route because after reading several trip reports, the route had provided many people with epics, falling rock, avalanches and evacuations from the rangers.



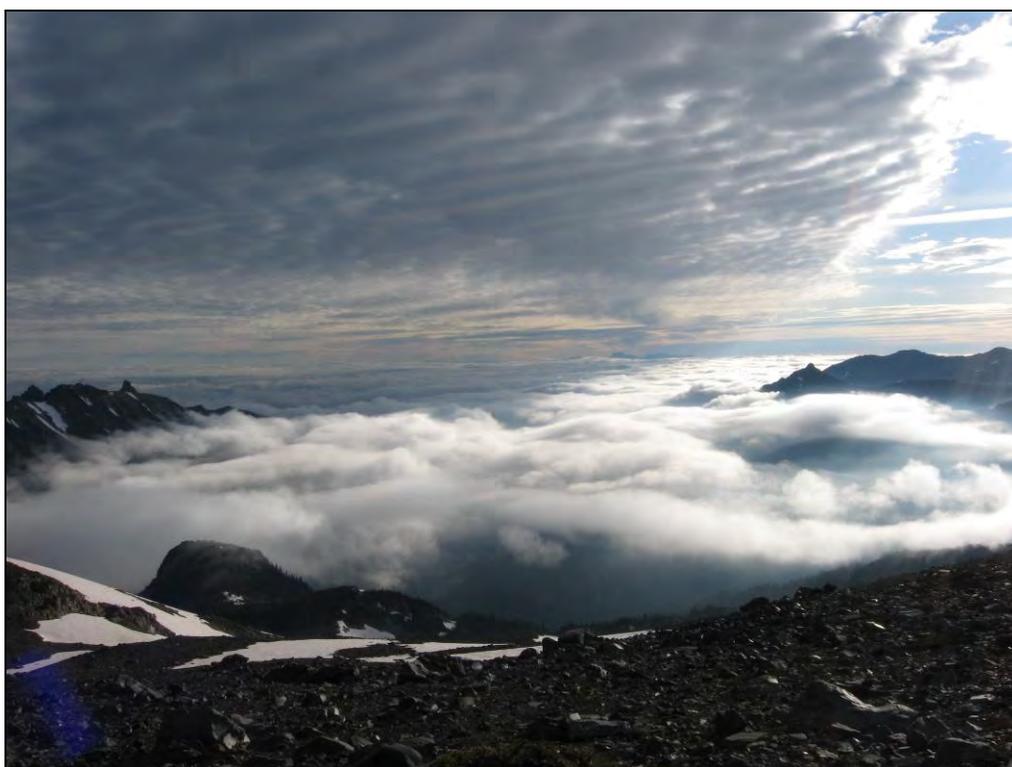
Chris and I at the Trail Head.

Day 1:

The hike from the trail head to the base of the route was pretty light. There was very little navigation skills needed for this section of the climb. We just made sure that we were not gaining altitude while traversing from the Prowl to Curtis Ridge. We set up camp on Curtis Ridge and spent the night.



Chris hiking up to St. Elmo Pass



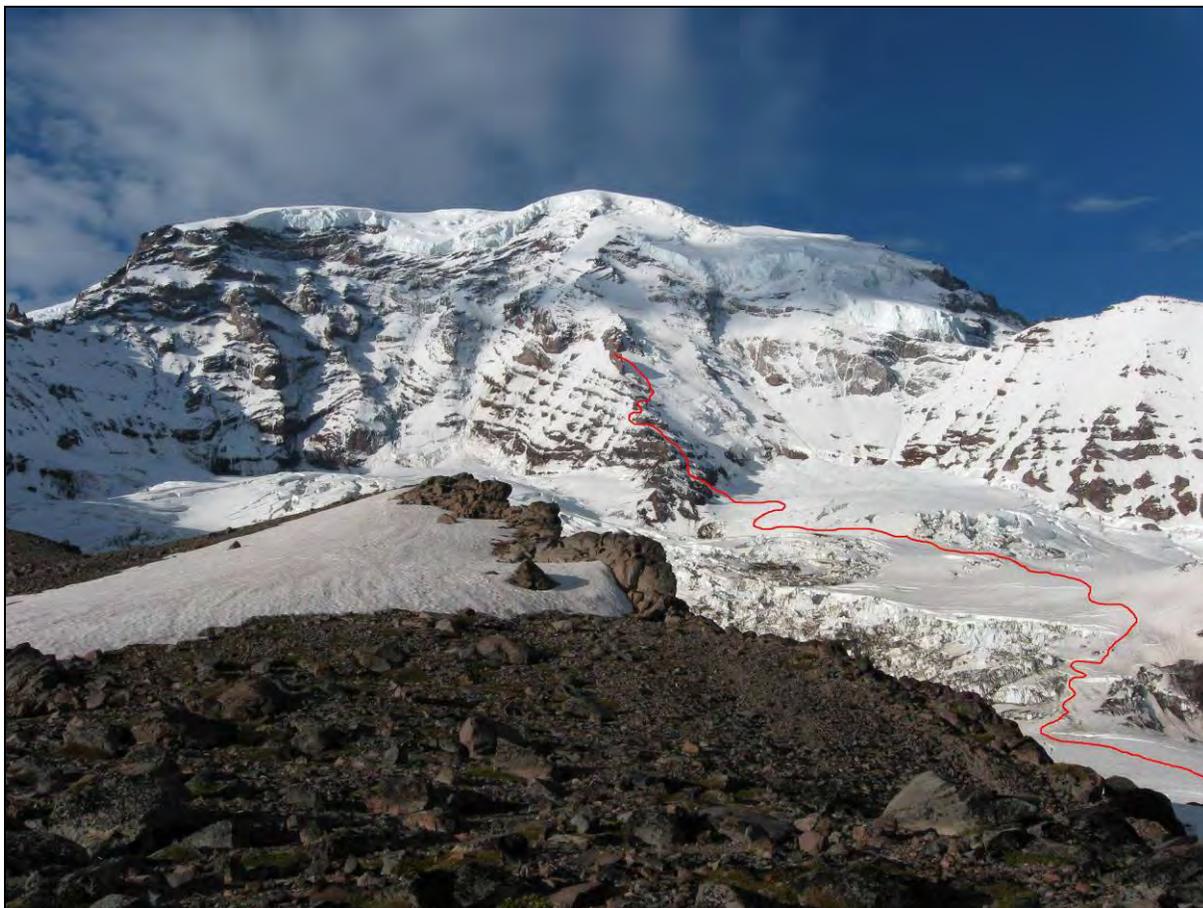
Morning view from Curtis Ridge

Day 2:

Day 2 consisted of climbing from Curtis Ridge to the only flat spot on Liberty Ridge (Thumb Rock). This section of the climb was really short and only took 6 hours or so to complete. For that reason we didn't wake up until 6:30am or so. There was some navigation needed to get to the bottom of Liberty Ridge, but for the most part we were just following steps. Once we were at

the bottom of the ridge, we gained the ridge and started climbing to Thumb Rock. This section of climbing is dangerous, exposed and should not be taken lightly. The rock quality is very bad. There is little or no protection along this section. Self arresting on this portion of the route would have been useless since there was so little snow on top of the rock. In certain sections, a fall would have most likely meant that the next time you stop; it would be 1000 feet below. Even though we did not encounter any rock fall during this section of the climb, I would not be surprised if we just got lucky.

The rest of day 2 was spent melting water, talking with fellow climbers and gasping at the amazing avalanches that occur to both sides of Liberty Ridge.



Approximate Approach to Thumb Rock (day 2)



Chris leading up to Thumb Rock/ view of the Winthrop glacier from the Ridge

Day 3:

We started the third day by waking up at 2am. We knew that if we started early, we would find the coldest conditions and hence a lower chance of rock fall. However this was not the case as we would find out near the Black Pyramid. There was some rock fall that landed about a foot away from me while I ducked and covered. Paul meanwhile had to jump from side to side trying to avoid getting hit by rock. That was the scariest part of the whole trip. I was very glad no one got hurt during that incident.



Oscar with Paul just below. This was taken a couple of minutes after the rock fall incident.



During the whole climb, the angle of the slope was 45 degrees or more. There was no place I could see where you could setup a bivy spot. This made me realize why so many epics happen on Liberty Ridge. The angle of the slope is so steep and continuous that there is no place to setup camp. It is highly unlikely one could build a snow cave since there was only about a foot of snow before hitting ice, and down climbing the ridge would take a long time, not to mention very dangerous.

Paul leading the last snow section of the ridge (13500 feet). I was glad Paul was feeling strong, because I wasn't.

As we neared 13500 feet, I started getting a headache. I knew it was due to the altitude so I started to hyperventilate to try to get more oxygen into my body. That only took me so far

and pretty soon my stomach was not feeling well from the meat and potatoes that I had at Thumb Rock. For the rest of the climb I felt the effects of altitude sickness.

Right. Chris leading a short section (about 8 feet) of WI3 ice climbing. Ice screws came in handy during this section of the climb.



Photo taken towards the top of the route where we had to do a small section of ice climbing.

When we reached the bottom of the Liberty ice cap, we decided on a straight approach up the ice wall. This took us to a short section of water ice which we climbed without much difficulty. We got up to somewhere near the top of Liberty Ridge and decided to start traversing towards Camp Sherman. As a team we were not feeling strong enough to go to Columbia Crest and I really wanted to head back to the car as soon as possible since I wanted to get a good nights rest on my bed, not in my sleeping bag. It took us somewhere around 7 hours from Thumb Rock to 200 feet or so below the top of the ice cap.

Columbia Crest is on the right side. I was glad we were coming down.



Overall the whole trip was awesome. That was a great learning experience on how to climb the more serious routes on Rainier. I would highly recommend doing this route if you want to tackle some of the more challenging routes on Rainier such as Ptarmigan Ridge. The approach is long and requires that you are in good shape so that you can move fast. During the whole upper ridge we never roped up except for the ice climbing section. The reason was that since we were not going to place any protection there was no point in roping up. Pickets would have been useless since there was little snow depth, and ice screws would have taken too long to place. Chris and I brought ice tools, while Paul brought one ice tool and an ice ax.

I was very glad that Paul and Chris were my climbing partners since I started feeling a little bit sick at 13500 feet, but I managed to push through. I'll climb with those guys any time...

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**Mt. Etna, Sicily, Italy**

September 2006

Rich Humbert

Following visits to Vesuvius, the Amalfi coast and the Greek temples at Paestum, I took a train south to the island of Sicily. The city of Catania is next to Etna, so I decided to stay there and explore via day trips. The cities of Sicily have a long history. I took one side trip to Syracuse which was settled by the Greeks around 600 BC. There are ruins of a Greek theater carved out of a rock basin where Aristophanes saw his plays performed and a temple which was later incorporated into a Christian church. The water was warm and the beaches pleasant even at the end of September.



Syracuse market  
Greek theater,  
Syracuse  
Majolica pottery  
shop, Taormina  
Giardini Naxos  
with Mt. Etna in  
background

Another day trip went to the picturesque upscale tourist town of Taormina and the beach at Giardini Naxos. From Giardini Naxos there were views of Etna. A prominent white cloud of volcanic gas was continually pouring from the summit and could be seen trailing at least 10 miles downwind. Etna is apparently Europe's greatest single pollution source.

Mt. Etna is Western Europe's highest volcano at 11,122 ft. Etna has had many periods of activity, with some eruptions threatening Catania, a city of 300,000. Lava flows destroyed a ski resort on the north side in 2004.

A local bus company offered service to the middle of the mountain around 6,000 ft. elevation. I took the bus and arrived at the base station at mid-morning. A cable car used for skiing in the winter provided service to around 8,000 ft. Above the cable car, tracked vehicles provided service to the South Crater which spewed molten lava in 2004. Most people stop here. Above this is the red zone where it is recommended to enter with a guide.

There was only one afternoon bus leaving around 4 PM, so I elected to take the cable car to save time. I hiked the rest of the way to the summit crater on a well trod path.

Cable car base station

Etna south crater



I paused at the red zone, the sign said a guide was highly recommended, but since a guide was not required I continued on. I was a bit worried that a long trip might cause me to miss the bus. The start of the approach was from the south, the trail continued under the summit and up the west side. To the east of the main summit a cinder cone had about half a dozen explosive eruptions during my day on the mountain. When I was at the closest, about a quarter mile from the cinder cone, I heard some clattering of rocks above following an explosion. Later I saw some rocks in the air following another explosive burst. I passed a guided trip and was chewed out by the guide who informed me that it was dangerous to go up alone. I replied that if I stayed on the same path as the guided tours, I did not see how it was more dangerous. If a large eruption had occurred, it could have indeed been unsafe, but a guide wouldn't help much if one was hit by a rock.

I continued on up the trail to the summit. The sulfur dioxide seemed rather strong so I did not cross the crater and returned to eat lunch. The guided tour arrived and I took a photo. This set off the guide again and he angrily told me that idiot tourists had died in the very spot I was sitting. How could I calmly be eating lunch? I was skeptical about the dead tourists. The guided party continued on through the cloud I was too cautious to penetrate and went back down the South side. The actual highest point on the crater rim was directly in the path of the white cloud of volcanic gas and I doubt anyone went there the day I ascended. I went back down the west side the way I came and got back to the base with a comfortable margin to catch the bus back to Catania.

Etna has a number of subsidiary craters which have erupted at different times. It was really interesting that the eruptions of the summit and the cinder cone a quarter mile away were so different. The summit had a continual heavy stream of white volcanic gas, while the cinder cone had intermittent eruptions of black smoke and rocks. In October, only a few weeks after I visited, a new lava flow started.



Summit Crater, top left and right

Etna, blowing chunks, above and right

Irate guide and customers.



Etna was a great trip. It is easy to get to and Sicily is worth a visit even without a trip up the mountain. It would be wise to check on the recent volcanic activity if planning a trip to Etna. I expect the summit is closed

# *The Gear Dork's Corner*

*by Dirk Visser*

Petzl is recalling two models of auto-locking carabiners. The M34 BL Am'D Ball-Lock carabiner & the M36 BL William Ball-Lock carabiner, both only with the metal locking sleeve. Older versions with the nylon locking sleeve are not being recalled. These are the spring loaded, auto-locking carabiners with the little green ball to release the half twist locking mechanism on the gate.

The problem is that the ball-lock mechanism does not fully engage on all carabiners. The lock mechanism on the gate could release and rotate without you intentionally releasing the lock. This does not happen on all carabiners! This is not happening on 100% of the produced carabiners in these two models, only a very small percentage. Petzl says that this only applies to carabiners produced and sold between March and July 2006. On the spine of the carabiner there is a batch number lightly inscribed, batch numbers between 06076 and 06178 only are included in the recall. Please go to [www.Petzl.com](http://www.Petzl.com) and click on the "USA Ball-Lock Recall Information" link at the top of the page. Under that link Petzl gives instructions on how to check your carabiner to see if it is defective.

Recommendation: If you have one of these carabiners with the metal locking sleeve, no matter when you bought it or what the batch code is, CHECK IT!!!!

This has been a public service message from you friendly Boealps Gear Dork. Climb Safe....Climb Often

## **News from CPSC**

### **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**

Office of Information and Public Affairs Washington, D.C. 20207

**For Immediate Release Firm's Recall Hotline: (877) 807-3805**

**October 18, 2006 CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772**

**Release #06-DRAFT FOR CLEARANCE CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908**

### **Petzl America Recalls Climbing Equipment Due to Fall Hazard**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. (To access color photos of the following recalled products, see CPSC's Web site at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).)

**Name of Product:** Carabiners used for climbing

**Units:** About 8,000

**Importer/Distributor:** Petzl America, of Clearfield, Utah

**Hazard:** These carabiners have a green button that acts as a safety mechanism to prevent unlocking. The recalled carabiners can unlock unexpectedly without pressing the green button, posing a fall hazard.

**Incidents/Injuries:** None reported.

**Description:** The recall involves the M34 BL Am'D Ball-Lock and M36 BL William Ball Lock carabiners with metal locking sleeves. Carabiners with batch number between 06076 and 06178 are included in the recall. The batch number is engraved on the spine of the carabiner. The recall does not include Ball Lock carabiners having a plastic locking sleeve.

**Sold at:** Petzl dealers nationwide from March 2006 through July 2006 for about \$13 for the Am'D model and about \$17 for the William model.

**Manufactured in:** United States

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the recalled carabiners immediately, and contact Petzl America to have their carabiners inspected and to receive a free replacement, if necessary.

**Consumer Contact:** : For more information, consumers can contact Petzl America at (877) 807-3805 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. MT Monday through Friday, or log on to the firm's Web site at [www.petzl.com](http://www.petzl.com).

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270 or visit CPSC's Web site at [www.cpsc.gov/talk.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/talk.html). Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

####

From : Ryan Allen <[ryan@the-summit.net](mailto:ryan@the-summit.net)>  
Reply-To : [ryan@the-summit.net](mailto:ryan@the-summit.net)  
Sent : July 13, 2007 5:17:57 AM  
To : [icc-instructors@boealps.org](mailto:icc-instructors@boealps.org), [icc-students@boealps.org](mailto:icc-students@boealps.org)  
Subject : Recycle your old harnesses!?!

mgear is giving \$25 credit for old harnesses. How else can you get paid for old climbing junk? Also, you are helping a study testing strength of old harnesses. Sounds like a deal to me.

-Ryan

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# *In memoriam.....*

## **Jorg Pilchowski**

November 20, 1967 – July 14, 2007



Jorg near Mt. Rainier Summit July 2005

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 a family lost a beloved son, brother and father, several lost a great colleague and climbing partner, and even more of us lost a good friend. After over a year and a half of valiant struggle, on that Saturday, Jorg Pilchowski's battle against cancer came to an end.

My friendship with Jorg really began late in March of 2003 when I, and several others, received his e-mail from with the subject "who wants to climb again." I recognized the name, and it peaked my interest. Deciding to respond in the affirmative was one of the best decisions I've ever made. It resulted in numerous fun and exciting climbing, snowshoeing and skiing trips, and even more important to me, enabled me to meet very interesting and diverse people, and to make several friends. For all of this, I will always be in Jorg's debt.

I actually first met Jorg back in 2002, when we both ended up taking the BoeAlps basic class together, and were members of the mighty Gold Team led by Chris Gronau with assistance from Ron Fleck and Kathy Hasegawa, among others. From the class, I knew that Jorg was German, a strong climber, a good athlete, and very patient and gracious to those of us who continually mispronounced his name. Unfortunately, at that time, I knew little else. As Jorg and I both juggled family obligations and work schedules, we rarely ended up on the same outings and didn't get a chance to know each other very well. As for myself, I thought the class was great fun and even attempted a few climbs with other team members that summer and fall, but then eased into ski season thinking that my climbing days were pretty much behind me.

However, when spring rolled around, Jorg's e-mail sparked my interest in climbing again. The same was true for several others as my first outing that spring with Jorg also included two other fellow Gold Team members Jon Junoodoo and David Hotchkiss. On this trip we proceeded to follow Jorg up Arrowhead Mountain near Stevens Pass.

For me it was an epic. It was my first snowshoe trip and I slogged miserably up the mountain with big clunky trail snowshoes and then proceeded to “ski” very poorly on them on the way down, only to lose my only water bottle near the top and suffer the rest of the trip from dehydration. This might have been my last outing if not for the entire group’s assistance, good humor and patience. The whole experience really cemented the fact, that at least for me, the joy of climbing is really not so much about summiting, but rather it is about the people that you’re climbing with. On the Arrowhead trip, as well as every subsequent adventure, I found Jorg to be level headed, skilled motivated and strong, but most of all, really fun to be around. Subsequently, I ended up going on as many of his excursions as I could.

Jorg was European, a world traveler and an avid outdoorsman. He loved camping, snowshoeing, skiing, hiking, canoeing, climbing etc., and was actively pursuing these passions long before I met him. At the same time he was an engineer with advanced degrees, inventions, published papers, patents, and patents pending. Jorg had many interests and many stories. Jon Junoodoo shared the following memories:

- He had thrilling story's of teenage adventures running away to different countries
- Academic, technical and linguistic excellence
- Learned climbing using home made gear - knotted rope for Hex placements, converted running shoes to climbing shoes by removing and replacing the sole
- Keen supporter of the German national soccer team - we watched the 2002 world cup on many early mornings at my place and the Pub
- A strong rock climber - doing the hard routes indoor climbing at Redmond gym
- A strong athlete - he was difficult to keep with on the climbing course

However, perhaps his most memorable attribute was his devotion to his family. Consequently, our conversations were almost exclusively about his relatives, both those here and in Germany. I remember his excitement at being able to travel back to Europe to see his parents and attend his brother’s wedding. I also remember how happy he was to have his parents or brother visit him here.

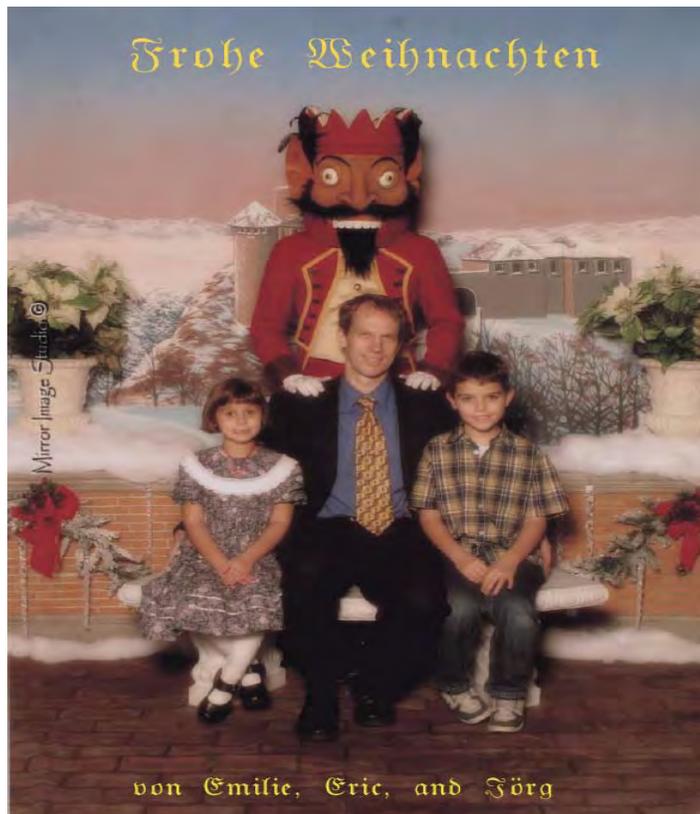
In my experience, Jorg’s favorite topic was his children. He was proud of their achievements, concerned for their well-being and very attentive to what kind of people they were developing into. I remember many an “alpine start” that had him out of the house before they were awake, and how he would call home from the road, or at the trailhead to wish them a good day and see how they had slept. Another friend of Jorg’s and frequent climbing partner, Tony Olejnicki, reminded me of how, while the rest of us would be primarily concerned about finding a cold beer and something to eat after a big climb, Jorg’s first order of business was to call home, let everyone know he was down safe and sound, and seemingly more importantly, to find out how their day had gone. I also remember Jorg’s frustration on the summit of Mt. Rainier when he couldn’t call his brother in Germany, and share the event, or his kids to see how they were doing, due to intermittent cell service.

Even more to the point, during his divorce in 2004, his friends saw him totally quit climbing to focus on ensuring that he could retain his close relationship with his children. Later, we saw how, during his lengthy illness, his primary concern was for his family. Many times I’d call to see how he was doing and he’d politely ask if he could call me back because his son Eric and daughter Emily were there. He wanted to spend every precious moment he could with them.

It was easy to see where Jorg’s commitment to family came from. Through out his ordeal Jorg’s parents Kurt and Dorothea, and his brother Uwe took turns traveling from Germany to help him, each staying for extensive periods of time, and spending every precious moment with him that they could. He related many times how very grateful he was for their care and devotion.

Jorg Pilchowski was a good friend and an inspiration to those around him. For those of you who didn’t have a chance to know him, I am truly sorry. For those of us that did, there are no words to express how much he meant to us or how sorely he will be missed. We’re just thankful that we got to know him for as long as we did.

Below I’ve attempted to list a few of the outings I and others had the privilege of sharing with Jorg. Needless to say, he had many other adventures and many more friends.



2003

- Colchuck - Jorg Pilchowski, David Hotchkiss, Jon Baker
- Ruth & Icy Peak - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki, Jon Baker
- Ingalls Peak - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki, David Hotchkiss, Jon Baker
- Castle Rock - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker

2004

- Avalanche Course - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Mt. St Helens - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki, Jon Baker
- Hex snowshoe trip - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki, Jon Baker
- The Tooth - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Esmeralda - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Whitehorse - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki, Jon Baker

2005

- Mt Baker ski trip - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Hex/Sassie snowshoe trip - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Beyond Sassie snowshoe - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Mt Rainier - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki, Jon Baker
- Baker ski trip - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Mt Rainier (snowshoe) - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker
- Prusik trip - Jorg Pilchowski, Tony Olejncki

2006

- Crystal Mt ski trip - Jorg Pilchowski, Jon Baker  
Jon Baker with help from Jon Junoodoo and Tony Olejncki

His family is planning to say goodbye in early August at:

Barton Family Funeral Service LLC  
North Park Business Center  
11630 Slater Ave NE, Suite 1A  
Kirkland, WA 98034

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*COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...*

→ *THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*

→ *YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*

→ *THE ANSWER TO THE ULTIMATE QUESTION OF LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND ALL ELSE*

→ *BREAKING NEWS REGARDING THE FATE OF SVEN YAGERMEISTER*

→ *AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 27 AUGUST 2007...*

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                        \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

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*If you have any submissions—anything  
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editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a  
call (our numbers are  
on the front cover)  
and we'll arrange something!*

SEPTEMBER 2007

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

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# ELECTIONS POSTPONED

# UNTIL OCTOBER MEETING!

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

The elections originally scheduled for September have been moved to October.

Try to attend the fall campout in Leavenworth, Sept. 14-16. We have the campground reserved for Friday this year.

Plans for the Banquet are in work, it will likely be early in November.

The annual Winthrop X-country ski trip is planned for late January.

Someone must have been out climbing this summer. Send in trip reports for the October issue!

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
Rich



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***GET 10 % DISCOUNT ON SELECTED GEAR WITH YOUR BOEALPS MEMBERSHIP CARD !!!***

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 5
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
Summer Climb Series.....	p. 8
Boealps Fall Campout.....	p. 9
Annual Banquet.....	p. 10
REPORTS	
<i>Inspiration Glacier</i> , by Kristi Morgansen.....	p. 11
<i>Shuksan Photos</i> , by Charlie Mencke.....	p. 16
<i>Ingalls N. Peak</i> , by Rich Humbert.....	p. 17
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 20
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 21
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 22

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>September</b>						1
2	3	4	5	6 General Meeting Mike Clarke	7	8
9	10	11 Board Meeting	12	13	14 Fall Campout	15 Fall Campout
16 Fall Campout	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Echo Deadline	25	26	27	28	29
30					<b>2007</b>	

	1	2	3 Gen. Meeting Elections	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Board Meeting	17	18	19	20
21	22 Echo Deadline	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	<b>October</b>		<b>2007</b>	

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **BCC CHIEF INSTRUCTOR WANTED !!!**

Regrettably, at the April Boealps board meeting Jerry Baillie, our long time BCC chief instructor, informed the board that he has decided to step down next year. Jerry has agreed to help prepare the person attempting to fill his shoes. In order to ensure we have a smooth transition we need to identify candidates for the chief instructor position as soon as possible.

If you are interested in the chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified. According to Jerry, the position is much more dependent upon organizational and personality skills, rather than actual climbing skills; so please don't feel that you have to be the best or most experienced climber to be a serious candidate.

...

## **AGRIS MORUSS FUND**

For those new members who may not be aware of it, or those faithful members who may have forgotten, The Agris Moruss Fund is still alive and well and accessible to members. The Fund was created in the late 80's to uphold the memory and spirit of a beloved Boealps instructor and awards grants yearly to expeditions organized by Boealps members.

If you are planning such a trip and would like to apply for a grant from the Agris Moruss fund, please contact any of the Boealps Board members or the fund's Board of Trustees (see Echo front page for contact information).

...

## **OCTOBER ELECTIONS**

The election of a new set of Boealps officers has been moved to October. Anyone with interest in a Board position is encouraged to run.

...

	Pro Mountain Sports 5625 University Way NE Seattle, WA 98105	206-522-1627 <a href="http://www.ProMountainSports.com">www.ProMountainSports.com</a>
<b>DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO BOEALPS MEMBERS ON SELECTED GEAR !!!</b>		

## **WINTRHOP SKI TRIP**

The X-country ski weekend in January provides an excellent opportunity to get out in the dark days of winter. We have a reservation for a new Winthrop location, January 25-27, 2008. Note this is not the desired MLK Jr. weekend of January 18-20; the Westar Lodge (our normal venue) has been sold, and is now called The Bend in the River - and it's booked for MLK Jr. weekend already. Price will go up: old = \$500/night, new = \$600/night. Cost per Boealper for the trip is likely \$90-\$100, still a bargain. Note this will not be Super Bowl weekend (that's Sunday, Feb.3), so football aficionados have no excuse.

Winthrop is among one of the top 10 x-country ski destinations in the U.S., with over 200 km of groomed trails and spectacular scenery. Don't miss out on this annual trip, which has featured some seriously good meals, excellent Winthrop Brewing Co. beer on tap, and music/games/etc. Families welcome.

As always, we'll be looking for a trip leader.

## **THE ECHO ARCHIVES**

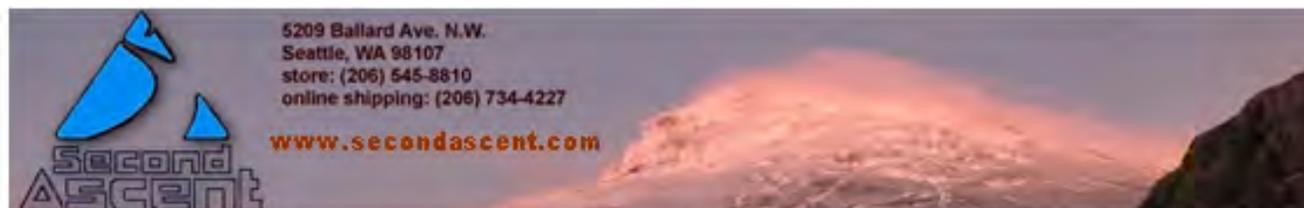
The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project

needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

### ***NEXT BOARD MEETING***

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11 September 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.



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# Summer Climb Series

Magic Mountain - Sept 22-23

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Signup via Email at [jbaillie@mac.com](mailto:jbaillie@mac.com) or phone at 206-283-6870

I will confirm signups on Tuesday Sept 18th.

## **Copper and/or Martin      Sept 28**

4 Day trip near Holden.

Scramble Routes

Contact: Kenny Downs - [kenneth.m.downs@boeing.com](mailto:kenneth.m.downs@boeing.com) or Cell: (425) 736-0501

## **Robinson      October 5**

2 Day trip

Scramble Route

Contact: Kenny Downs - [kenneth.m.downs@boeing.com](mailto:kenneth.m.downs@boeing.com) or Cell: (425) 736-0501

## **Logan & Stormking    Sept 7th**

4 Day trip near Stehekin

Scramble Route

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## **Robinson      October 5**

2 Day trip

Scramble Route

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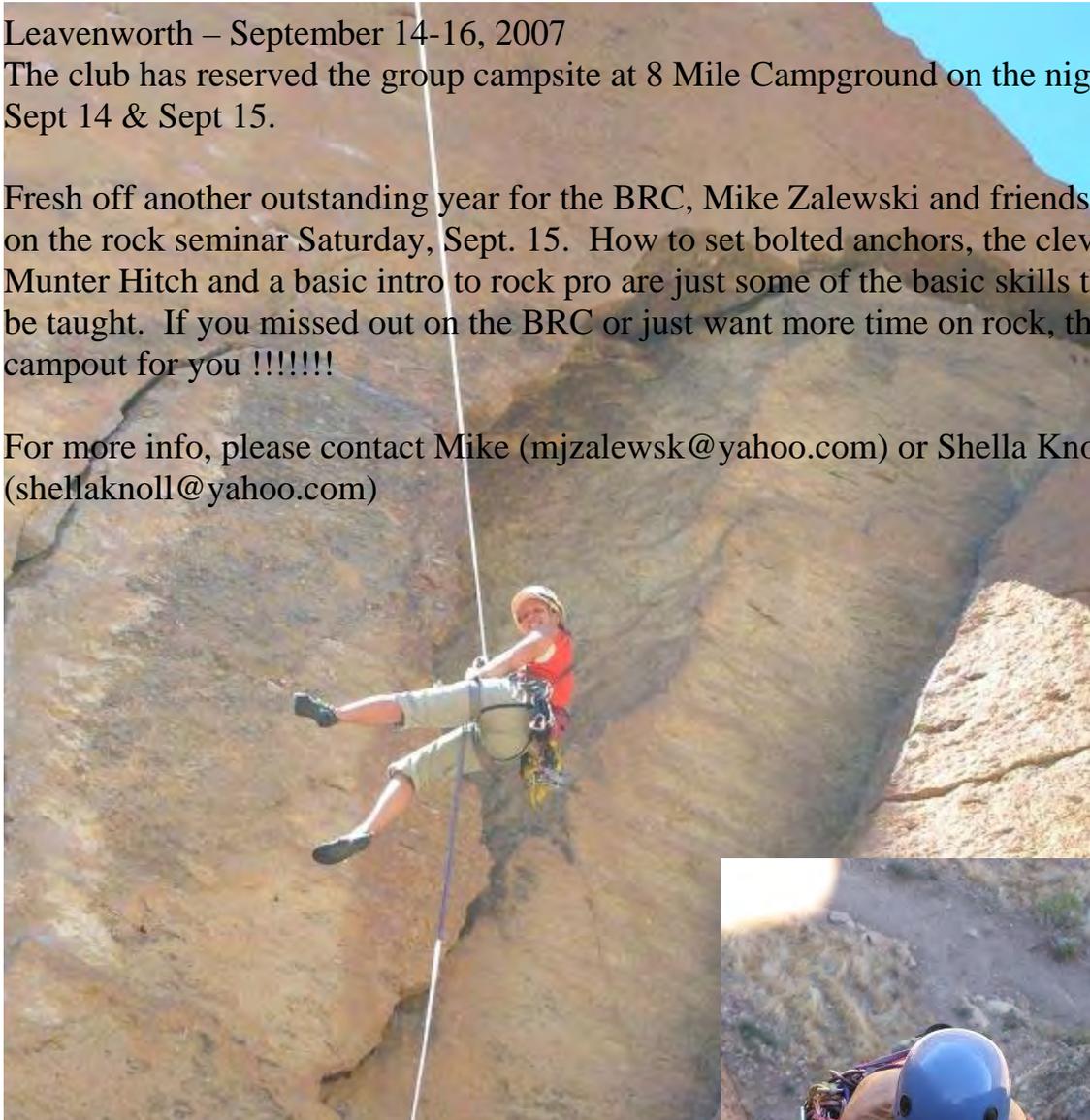
## FALL CAMPOUT & ROCK CLIMBING SEMINAR

Leavenworth – September 14-16, 2007

The club has reserved the group campsite at 8 Mile Campground on the nights of Sept 14 & Sept 15.

Fresh off another outstanding year for the BRC, Mike Zalewski and friends will put on the rock seminar Saturday, Sept. 15. How to set bolted anchors, the clever Munter Hitch and a basic intro to rock pro are just some of the basic skills that will be taught. If you missed out on the BRC or just want more time on rock, this is the campout for you !!!!!!!

For more info, please contact Mike ([mjzalewski@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzalewski@yahoo.com)) or Shella Knoll ([shellaknoll@yahoo.com](mailto:shellaknoll@yahoo.com))



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# *Annual Banquet*

The Annual Banquet date will probably be early in Nov. Keep the dates open. The banquet is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends.

We strongly recommend you buy your tickets early. We had many requests for tickets after we were sold out last year.

---

## Inspiration Glacier Traverse

July 1-6, 2007

Signe Franzen, Greg Gleason, Terry Hill, Kristi Morgansen, Carter Nelson, and Vicky Larsen

The Inspiration Glacier Traverse is a 23 mile traverse from the Thunder Creek Trailhead to the Eldorado trailhead with five summits each in the top 100 of Washington (over 8200ft). Generally the route is recommended for 5-6 days with a car shuttle at the end. Our group had six people and planned for six days starting on July 1. The weather was predicted to be good for the whole week, and in fact it turned out to be great. Lots of sun screen required though. We were all equipped with standard climbing gear, and for group gear had two ropes for teams of three on glacier, two stoves with a total of 77oz of fuel, two shovels and three pickets. Vicki's topo maps are down at the end of the report.



*The river by McAllister campsite just before the bushwack*

dropped at the main parking lot, a trailhead photo was taken, and we were off. The first day was 6.4 miles with 700ft of elevation gain to McAllister campsite, then another two miles of distance with 4000ft of elevation gain. Those two miles were a bushwack, but thankfully the trail was marked,

although sometimes hard to find (got to play a fun game of "marker, marker, where is the trail marker"). The day was pretty sunny, but thankfully we were in the trees for most of the bushwhack. Vicky had some trouble with her water bladder having soap, so we ended up being a bit short of water on the way up. The snow started at about 4500ft, and I was personally very happy to be able to get to water. I was having some trouble with dehydration before we got to the



*Sunrise on the second day*

To make life easier with the shuttling and permits and all, we drove out to the Marblemount Ranger station on Saturday June 30, got our permits,

and dropped off my Highlander (seatbelts for seven using the third row seat and augmented with a Thule box borrowed from Karin and Jens, much thanks!) at the Eldorado trailhead. We then drove over to the camp area at Thunder Creek and claimed a site. The camp area there is huge and quite nicely arranged. Then it was off to Mazama for a bit of climbing at Fun Rocks and one last non-dehydrated dinner at the inn. Then back to the campsite for some sleep.

Sunday morning we were up early to pack up the gear and distribute the weight. Then the cars were

dropped at the main parking lot, a trailhead photo was taken, and we were off. The first day was 6.4 miles with 700ft of elevation gain to McAllister campsite, then another two miles of distance with 4000ft of elevation gain. Those two miles were a bushwack, but thankfully the trail was marked, although sometimes hard to find (got to play a fun game of "marker, marker, where is the trail marker"). The day was pretty sunny, but thankfully we were in the trees for most of the bushwhack. Vicky had some trouble with her water bladder having soap, so we ended up being a bit short of water on the way up. The snow started at about 4500ft, and I was personally very happy to be able to get to water. I was having some trouble with dehydration before we got to the snow, but thankfully Terry noticed and got me sorted out with drinking and eating until I got my energy back. Also of note at the snow line was the appearance of the mosquitoes. And I don't mean just a few. These were mosquitoes on a scale of the clouds you seen in cartoons. But

in this case they were real. And hungry. They pretty much followed us up to the campsite, although they were a bit better up there. The snow was a bit soft, but stable without any trouble of postholing. The campsite was at about 5800ft by the Borealis Glacier and had a great view. We used a good amount of fuel that night to melt lots of snow and rehydrate.



*Ready to go at the trailhead on Day 1!*



*The easy part of the bushwack (you can see the trail and it's not actually vertical)*

Monday we headed out to our first summit, Primus.

This summit is a carryover, and as it's the first, the packs were still very heavy with food. Vicky and I followed the other four at a slower pace around the lake, past the waterfall, and up the snow to Lucky Pass. Some discussion had been made of doing Tricouni peak next to Primus before Primus, but the lead four opted for a nap instead. Once Vicky and I caught up, we all headed up the rocks and snow to the summit of Primus. Vicky provided the summit snack of blueberry cobbler. After a quick photo, we headed down the rocks and snow to the edge of the glacier field, roped up, and headed out to the next campsite. Personally, when I looked at the route, I couldn't see where we were going to find a flat-ish place to camp, but once we got around the stone nose, there was in fact a flat spot with a great view, running water, and dirt. The snow conditions were still the same as the first two days, so no crampons required. A bit windy, but a snow wall took care of that. That day, and the others up to the last one, I took middle position on the second rope.



*Hanging out at Lucky Pass*



*Blueberry cobbler on the summit. Mmm*



*On the way up to Primus*



*Traversing the edge of the North Klawatti Glacier (Primus is back to the right out of view and camp is ahead)*

Day three (Tuesday), we were off to our second summit, Austeria. The distance this day was much shorter, and we were able to drop the packs along the route and get off rope before heading up. We took one rope, and a static line was set up. The first part of the summit route is on snow and then a bit of a scramble on rock. As it turned out, the rock was a bit loose in places. Four of the team made it up, but Greg took a rock on his arm and got a bit scraped up. Based on the loose rock and climbing conditions (and the fact that I left my prussiks on the rope because I didn't realize we were doing a static line), Vicky and I opted to cheer on the others from 30ft below the summit. No other problems, and we all got back to the packs with no trouble. Then we were off to our third campsite near Klawatti. Only about an hour traverse to the col which had some running water and nice sunny rocks to sit on for the afternoon.



*The team on Austeria*



*Camp and the view from the top of the bowl to the south*



*Summit of Klawatti and the descent*

Day four (Wednesday) was Klawatti, just around the corner and up a steep snow-filled chute from the campsite. Vicky and I opted to stay at the tents (I'm still working on that exposure issue, but getting better), and the rest of the team slammed through the climb and back in about two hours. Carter had provided red, white and blue jelly belly's for the Fourth. Once the crew was back, we packed up and headed off on a brief (as in 45min) traverse to the saddle by Dorado Needle which the group would climb on Thursday. We were there around noon and set up a camp with benches and all. The weather was pretty warm and sunny, so we had some melting issues. At this point, because of the sun and glare, we were pretty much all doing a combination of sunscreen on every surface that wasn't covered by clothing. Personally I was wearing my liner gloves and a hooded jacket to keep the

sun off as much as possible. Terry and Carter opted to spend a bit of time that afternoon climbing Flower Power, which provided the rest of us with some entertainment. That was a two pitch climb with some loose rock.



*Hiking up to Dorado Needle*

Thursday, day five, the group went up to Dorado Needle. Given the 20ft Cheval, I opted to stay at camp (that exposure thing again) and read a nice mystery novel. Had a great time watching the team hike up the glacier along a previously used path (probably within a week old). Took about an hour to the saddle, then around the back to the rock. Signe was up first at the two hour mark followed by Terry. The group was back down about 5 ½ hours after the start with no trouble on the rock or the glacier. The day was pretty hot again, so we opted for siesta time in the afternoon. Because of the heat, we had to do a bit of reconstruction work and re-anchoring on the tent sites. We did see our first people this evening when a couple of climbers came in to do the south buttress of Dorado Needle on Friday.



*The view from the top*



*Traversing to Eldorado*

Friday, the last day, was Eldorado. As I hadn't been able to make my groups grad climb to Eldorado, I was given the lead on the first rope to get some more experience (I'd been middle the other days). The traverse over to the main route up Eldorado has a couple of options. One is to go down to the base camp at 7500ft (which was lower than our camp at Dorado Needle), or stay higher and work between the crevasses to end up at about 8100ft. Melted out footsteps along both paths were available for both routes, but the upper route was more than a couple of days old (the other climbers had used the lower route). With me in the lead to watch for crevasses, we headed out on the upper path. The traverse was pretty straightforward with slow elevation gain until right before we joined up with the main trail up Eldorado when the path I was following went across a crevasse that clearly had opened up since last crossed. I wasn't sure



*Terry and Carter climbing and the campsite*



*Eldorado summit!*

had clearly just about postholed into the crevasse (we could see the crevasse through a couple of his steps, but apparently he never felt the possibility that any of his steps might be on thin ice). Then we dropped our packs on the rocks, I switched to middle of the rope, Vicky took the pickets, and we headed up. The other rope led the way to the knife edge, then Vicky took the lead to place the pickets. We crossed over the summit and down to some rocks (where the wind was lower) and had our last summit snacks and some photos. We took off about 11:30am, and headed down to the packs. Then down to the base camp and across the snow field to the ridge crossing. Down the last bit of snow to the waterfall and boulder field. Personally I wouldn't want to deal with that boulder field wet or in postholing conditions, as I thought it was plenty of work dry with no snow. Then on to the step (but well-defined trail on dirt) and out to the river crossing. The river crossing is over some logs that had some good branches for handholds. Which is not to say that I kept my balance, but falling in felt pretty good after the hot hike down. We were back at the trailhead at 5:30pm or so. We'd hidden some beers in the river when we shuttled my car, and I must say they were quite good. Then we loaded up the gear, and hopped in the car. For reference, with the third seat up in the Highlander, three packs will fit in the back, and if you have an agreeable person like Carter, you can get two more in the third row seat with the sixth person. The last pack and miscellaneous pieces (and blue bags) went up in the cargo box. Then off to the ranger station to check out and pitch the trash. A quick stop at Good Food for some munchies, and then we headed out to pick up the other cars and our non-smelly clothes. Dinner was at the Buffalo Run restaurant, and we headed back to the city around 9:15pm.

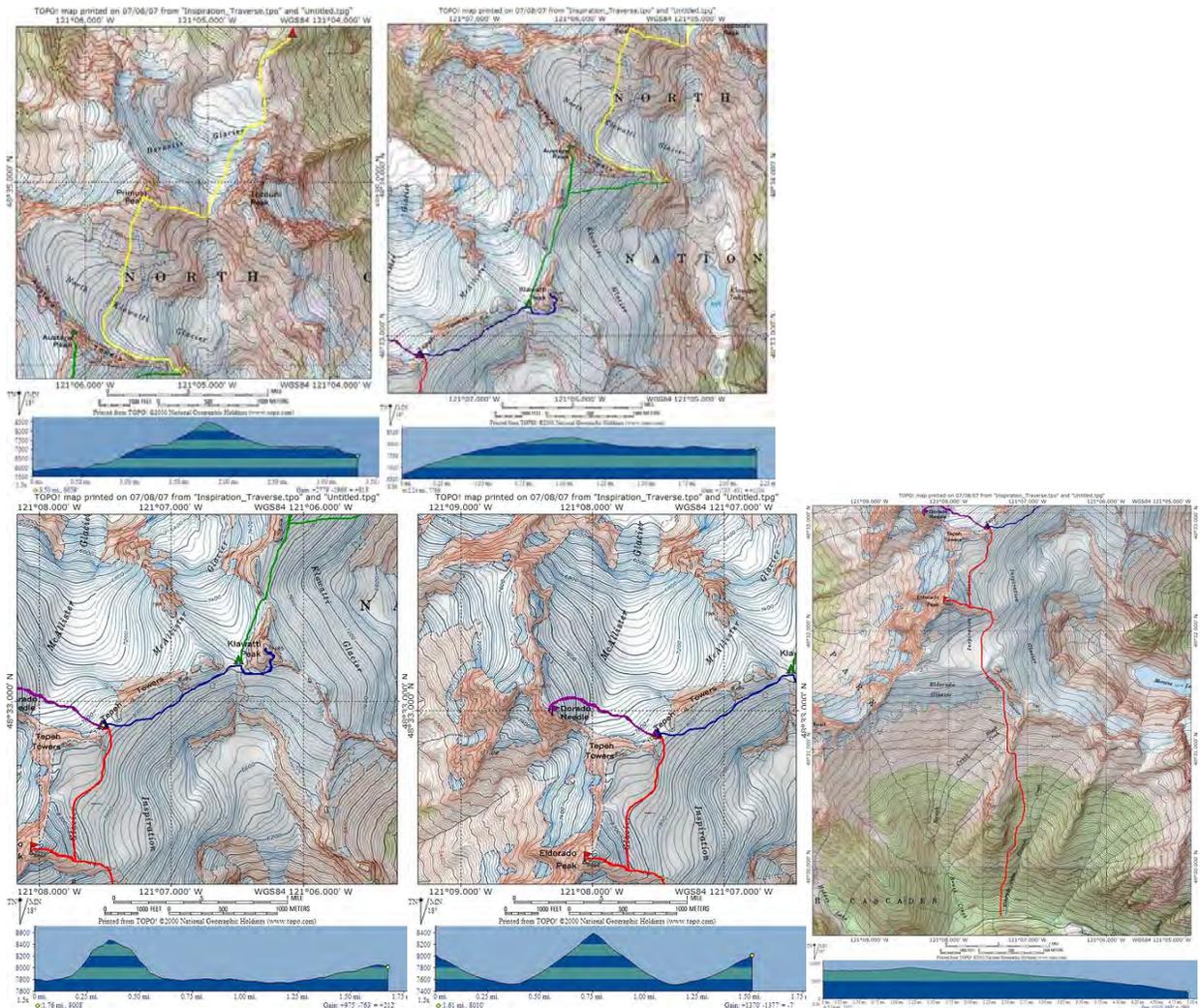
what route to take to get through, so the second rope led by Greg came up to find a safe path across the crevasse. Everyone was belayed across, and carefully avoided the steps where Greg



*That crazy knife edge and the path to the summit*



*Heading out to the Eldorado trailhead*



The topo maps for the six days (in order).

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Shuksan photos from Charlie Mencke.



1. Chris Fering, Matt Wetzel and Phil Jones at basecamp admiring the summit pyramid.



Matt Wetzel, Phil Jones, and Chris Ferring approaching the summit Pyramid.



Sunrise.



Charlie, Fering and Phil admiring alpenglow On Mt. Rainer from Mt. Shuksan.  
(Photo: Matt Wetzel)



Matt Wetzel, Phil Jones, and Chris Fering on the summit of Shuksan.

## Ingalls Peak, North Summit July 28 – 29, 2007

Leaders – Jerry and Cathy Bailee

Team – Mo Horiuchi, Chris Meder, Cal Culbertson, Morten Hansen, Cathy Hawkins, Rich Humbert

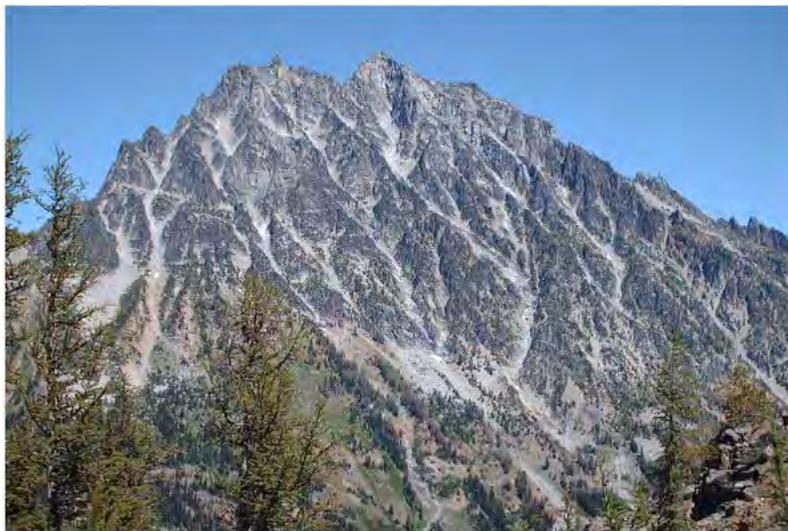
Scribe – Rich Humbert, Photos – Mo Horiuchi

It was a typical summer 2007 weekend. The forecast turned iffy for the mountains as the weekend arrived. We were glad to be heading to the east side of the Cascades where the weather was likely to be better. We drove across Snoqualmie Pass and stopped for breakfast in Cle Elum. We hadn't planned as thoroughly as we could have and had to wait a few minutes in order to obtain provisions for mojitos. We continued on through the scenic Teanaway valley to the Esmerelda trailhead.

The trail rises about 2000 ft. to Ingalls Pass through open country with fine views back toward Esmerelda Pk. There are spectacular views of Mt. Stuart from the pass and on to Ingalls.



Ingalls Pass



Mt. Stuart from Ingalls Pass

We discussed continuing on past Ingalls Lake, but decided to camp in one of the designated sites below Ingalls Pass. The site was excellent with nearby meadows in open country. A number of goats were wandering nearby including a cute youngster and the views were great. It would have been perfect except for the flies and mosquitoes.



Jerry and Cathy B.



Ingalls S. and N. Peaks

We set up camp and decided to head up to check out Ingalls Lake. The lake is a beautiful blue and is set in a scenic rocky basin. The braver members of the party, Cathy B., Chris and Cal took a dip in the lake. We consumed the mojitos and headed back to camp.



Ingalls Lake



Ingalls lake from above.



Ingalls basin meadow



Summit Slab



RH leading the first pitch

We left camp shortly after 7 AM. At the lake, we met Morten and Cathy Hawkins who had arrived after dark the previous day. There was a 20 mph wind at the lake. I was glad we camped lower down where the wind was minimal. Following a hike up the rocky slope to the pass between the South and North summits, we dropped down a few ft. and arrived at the base of the climb. A 4<sup>th</sup> class pitch was protected with a fixed line. Fortunately, the wind wasn't as strong at the rock as it had been lower down at the lake. A strikingly smooth slab with a central crack leads to the summit. Two horizontal ledges break the climb into thirds. A party of three arrived about the same time as our party and we let them go on ahead. After the first party was well up onto the third pitch, we started climbing. I led the first pitch up a 5.2 crack at the left side of the slab. Significant exposure near the top of the pitch made it exciting. Jerry led the middle toughest, 5.4? pitch, and Morten led the third section. The climbing isn't technically difficult, but the smooth slab and airy feel make Ingalls a very satisfying climb. With a group of 8, we were very slow getting everyone up all three pitches. There wasn't room for everyone on the ledges so we brought up three people to the first ledge and started up the second pitch with the second rope. Eventually we got everyone up. After the third pitch, a short traverse led to the summit. We lingered a while at the top to enjoy the views and take photos. It was well into afternoon at this point so we decided to head back. A 50m rappel barely reached the bottom of the slab. When we got back to camp we found the wind had cleared out the mosquitoes. We packed up and headed out and it was near sunset when we arrived at the cars and after 11 PM to Seattle. Ingalls is a popular climb and we were lucky so few parties were there the day we arrived.



At Ingalls summit.

# *F O O D            F O R            T H O U G H T . . . . .*

"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose faith is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotion, and spends himself in a worth cause; who, at the best, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst; if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, to that the place will never be with those cold timid souls who know neither victory or defeat."

- President Theodore Roosevelt, who climbed the Matterhorn in 1881 and became an honorary member of the American Alpine Club in 1905.

From The Quotable Climber, J. Waterman, ed.

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ALPINE ECHO



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*September Echo staff*

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Richard Humbert

Contributors:

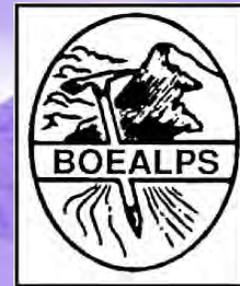
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*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

OCTOBER 2007



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ELECTIONS  
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THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 2007 7:00pm

# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

Well, I'll keep it short and sweet for once: Elections are coming up and it's also time to start thinking about next year and how you can get involved with Boealps. Come on folks, step up to the plate and do your part to help plan the year 2008. It's a great experience, great fun and mostly painless, especially when there's a lot of people helping out instead of a handful of dedicated individuals assuming all the burden of keeping the club alive.

Election night is Thursday October 4th, 7pm, at Stellar Pizza. Join us for free grub, chatting about your involvement, and a chance to win some decent door prizes.

Inside this month's issue you'll also find two trip reports from adventurous souls: One group ventured north to Vancouver Island, while another clambered up Lookout Mountain for a birthday party (!!!).

Read on, Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and see you on Election night. Oh, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
François

---

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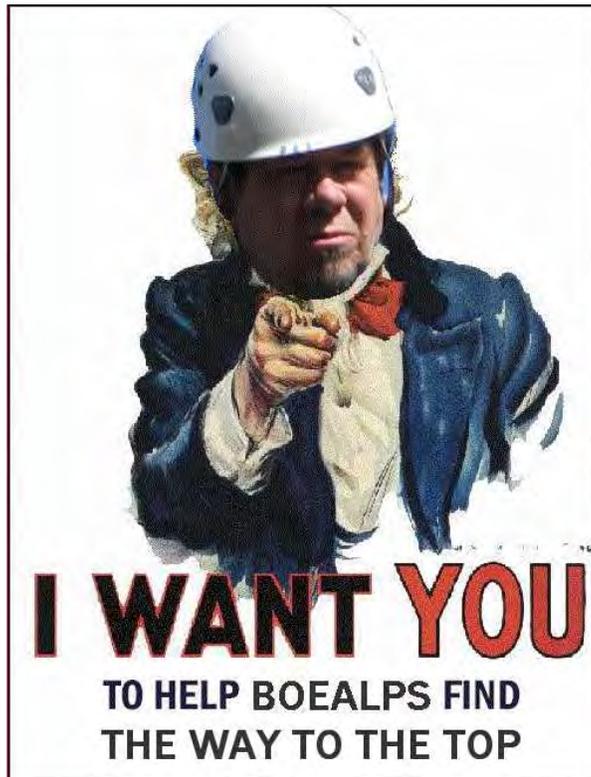
## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 6
BOEALPS EVENTS	
Elections !.....	p. 8
REPORTS	
<i>West Coast Trail, Vancouver Island, BC</i> , by John Gowan.....	p. 9
<i>Lookout Mountain, North Cascades</i> , by Blaine Kinnebrew.....	p. 13
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 18
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 19
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 20

<b>October</b>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> BOEALPS ELECTIONS	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Board Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<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>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Halloween			

2007

***ON OCTOBER 4th, MAKE A DIFFERENCE: GO TO STELLAR AND VOTE !!!***





Memories from the Fall Campout in Leavenworth: Matt Wetzel, Micah Nolan, Robert Fisher and Jacob Moshenko at the top of R&D on Icicle Buttress (16 September 2007) (photo by C. Mencke)

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
<b>November</b>						
4	5	6	7	8	9 BOEALPS ANNUAL BANQUET	10
11	12	13 Board Meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26 Echo Deadline	27	28	29	30	
						<b>2007</b>

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **BCC AND ICC CHIEF INSTRUCTORS WANTED !!!**

Time is running out if you are thinking about heading the BCC or ICC next year. The Board will make a final decision soon, so that preparations can start for next year's classes...

If you are interested in a chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified.

...

## **BOEALPS ANNUAL BOARD ELECTIONS !!!**

Elections for next year's Executive Board will take place on Thursday October 4th, 7:00pm, at Stellar Pizza in Georgetown (minutes away from the usual 2-22 building gathering place). As well, the evening will serve to round up volunteer help to man the various committees that make it all happen in a year's life at Boealps.

It's great to be a participant at all of the meetings, campouts, classes, seminars, climbs but guess what ? It all happens because a few individuals put in time and effort to bring it all to you. Why not become more involved next year, and get an even greater sense of belonging to a great renowned community of northwest climbers.

You can be a candidate for a Board position:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Or choose to help out on any level in a committee:

- Membership (members database, photography, conservation, class liaison, marketing)
- Activities (programs, planning, publicity)
- Education (seminars, classes)
- Equipment (gear rentals, gear purchases, gear repairs)
- Publications (web masters, librarian, Echo editors)

Simply contact one of the current Board members, or drop by at Stellar Pizza on October 4th. Your help and support will be much appreciated.

...

## **BOEALPS ANNUAL BANQUET !!!**

The Annual Banquet preparations are in full swing !

The date of the event has been locked and an official announcement will soon be released regarding the location. As we speak, negotiations are taking place to secure an outstanding speaker that you will not want to miss...

## **The Banquet will be held this year on Friday November 9th**

...

## **BOEALPS ANNUAL WINTHROP CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRIP !!!**

Just a "heads up" to confirm that, yes, the ski trip to Winthrop will happen again this year in late January. Official announcement and details will follow shortly. Keep a note on your agenda because room will be limited, as usual, so you will want to register early !

...

# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **UPCOMING SEMINARS**

We will admit that there was some confusion regarding the ever-elusive Ice Climbing Seminar again this year... Yes, it was originally scheduled for the October 20-21 weekend. However, it has now been postponed (not cancelled !!!) to the December / January time frame. Hang on to your ice tools though: it will be well worth the wait this year... Details to be announced.

And yes, an Avalanche Awareness Seminar is also being planned (on-going discussions with Gary Brill)... Details to be announced as well...

...

## **AGRIS MORUSS FUND**

For those new members who may not be aware of it, or those faithful members who may have forgotten, The Agris Moruss Fund is still alive and well and accessible to members. The Fund was created in the late 80's to uphold the memory and spirit of a beloved BoeAlpS instructor and awards grants yearly to expeditions organized by BoeAlpS members.

If you are planning such a trip and would like to apply for a grant from the Agris Moruss fund, please contact any of the BoeAlpS Board members or the fund's Board of Trustees (see Echo front page for contact information).

...

## **THE ECHO ARCHIVES**

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicky. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

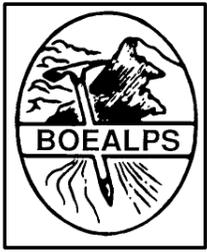
## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9 October 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

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# Boeing Employees Alpine Society

## Club Elections!

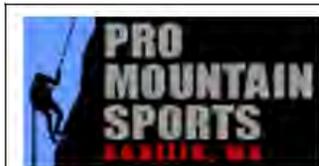
Where: **Stellar Pizza** (Georgetown, Seattle)  
5513 Airport Way South Seattle, WA 98108

When: **October 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**

Why: Well, to help elect the new board for 2008! AND sign up to be part of the next year's Boealps committees!! (Membership, Activities, Education, Equipment, Publications)

Who: **YOU!**

Come on down and have some pizza on the club! Also, for those who come and participate (vote) you will receive a **FREE**, yes a **FREE** raffle ticket!! The club will be raffling off a new Edelweiss ½ rope (30mm X 8mm) and 2 \$25 gift certificates for Pro Mountain Sport! But you will have to attend to win! So don't be late!



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*DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO BOEALPS MEMBERS ON SELECTED GEAR !!!*

## West Coast Trail, Vancouver Island BC September 1-9

Hikers: Cheryl Meyers (trip leader), John Gowan (scribe), Al Baal, Cheryl Drevecky

Four intrepid Boealpers and four others hiked the 48 mile West Coast trail the week of Labor Day. Cheryl Meyers brought this motley crew together. Permits for the trail are obtained by lottery and Cheryl M. secured a permit for up to ten people in a group. The West Coast trail is described as a 'strenuous' hike in a lot of guide books and we found out why as we got into it.



This is the centennial anniversary of the trail that was founded to save shipwreck survivors on Vancouver Island's rugged SW coast. One of the attractions of this trail is the elaborate network of ladders, suspension bridges, boardwalks and cable cars that were constructed to make it possible to travel over the rough terrain and deep river gorges along this coastal stretch. We hoped for some good weather during the trip but expected a little rain as the trail travels through rain forest a good stretch of the way. We took the Victoria Clipper on Saturday afternoon so we could meet the shuttle bus from downtown Victoria that would take us to



the Bamfield, BC trailhead early the next day. The next morning we awoke early to meet the shuttle bus a few blocks from the hotel. Several other hikers were on the bus mostly from Vancouver and other parts of Canada. Saw many European hikers on this trail along with people from all over Canada. It was a four hour trip over rough logging roads to the Northern end of the trail. When we arrived we sat through a briefing on the trail, paid our fees and did last minute preparations before setting off down the trail. It had been raining that day and wasn't long before we



encountered some thick mud. This trail is one of the muddiest I'd ever been on. There was no escaping it! One could hope to go around it but most of the time wound up sinking to the calf in thick goop. Ugh! The inevitable slip or stumble with a heavy pack on left you sopping wet in the stuff. It's not long before you've got the stuff on your clothes. The best to hope for is dry conditions so it's not too bad, fat chance.

The first day we camped on the shore. It was nice to have a driftwood fire each night. Cheryl M. did a great job with the food. We enjoyed Outback Oven baked goods prepared over an MSR Dragonfly stove everyday. Not something I'm used to while roughing it. A tide table is an



essential thing on this trip. A lot of places you have the option to travel on either the trail or the beach. In choosing the beach the tide table has to be consulted to find if the tide is low enough to make that possible or you could have to turn around and take the land route. I found myself checking my watch a lot when hiking on the beach. Were we going to beat the tide? "Time's running out before the tide comes up, hurry!"



The second day it rained hard most of the day. The trail turned into a complete quagmire of goop. Everyone got sopping wet in the stuff. Mud, mud, mud!! By the time we arrived at camp we were all shivering as we put the tents up. It was darn near impossible to build a driftwood fire on the beach and we hurriedly ate dinner and crawled into the sleeping bags to get warm. The next morning the weather cleared and the mist along the shore made a beautiful scene at dawn. There have been many shipwrecks along this route and the rusting remains of many are still there more than a hundred years later. There was a large wrought-iron boiler from a steamship on the rocks. That's all that's left of the hulk wrecked 120 years ago as the sea slowly reclaims it. For the rest of the trip we enjoyed sunny skies and not much mud. As we got further down the trail the terrain got rougher. I thought how difficult it might have been if we'd had to travel that part of the trail in the rain!

The second day is when the ladders started to get serious. It seemed to me you could gain elevation faster using the ladders than compared to switchbacks on a trail. Of course that doesn't mean you feel less winded when you get to the top, you just get there faster.



The third day we go to the ferry at Tsutsiat Narrows. This is on an Indian Reservation and at the ferry crossing they were selling crabs cooked while you waited. After a few days on the trail nothing tastes quite as good as freshly cooked crab! After taking the ferry we mostly traveled along the beach and on bluffs above the shore. This part of the trail had many sharp drop-offs with no fence. If you took a wrong step here the consequences would not be good! The grey whale migration was in progress and we had hoped to see some but didn't during the trip. The storms last winter had done a lot of damage to the trail. There were a thousand downed trees and several of the bridges had to be rebuilt before the trail could open. This year the trail was a month late in opening because of the work to repair all the damage.

The fourth day we passed one of the two lighthouses along the trail. The guide books say not to camp too close to them because the foghorn will blast BAAWHAA! all night long. This was about the half way point for the trek. If there is an injury and someone needs evacuation about the only way to do it is by boat since Tsutsiat Narrows is the only place there is inland access from the trail. There had been 75 evacuations this year so far when we started the trek. Most injuries happen from falls off slippery logs that result in a twisted knee or ankle. At the briefing before we started the Canadian park



warden (ranger) recommended we hang our food every night or store it in a bear locker because there are black bears in the area. Wolves and Cougars also inhabit the region. We didn't see any bears but opportunistic mice were all around the camp areas looking for food left out at night. The second half of the trail had most of the suspension bridges and REALLY long ladders. Some of the ladders were the height of 20 story buildings going down to a creek and then back up the other side with a suspension bridge in between. For someone scared of heights it's not advised to look down when crossing some of these bridges!

On the fifth day the rain forest got so thick that the trail was hopping from one log to another for miles on end. It seemed you never touched the ground! The last camp we made was at Camper Bay that gave a good view across the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the Olympic Peninsula. I'm pretty sure we could make out the top of Mt Olympus from this vantage point. There wasn't much space to camp here so when the tide came up at night Al and I hurriedly moved our tent to higher ground as the surf almost came right up to where we were camped. The last day we made it to the Port Renfrew end of the trail for the final ferry ride to the other side. The weather was beautiful on this last day of the hike in contrast to the raining



skies when we started. So thanks to Cheryl M for having the impetus to put this trip together and the fellow Boealpers for making a great memory for me!





West Coast Trail Hikers (L to R): Al Baal, Cheryl Meyers, John Gowan, Diane Driscoll, Keith, Katie Driscoll, Alison Lippitt, and Cheryl Drevecky

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## Lookout Mountain, North Cascades September 22 and 23, 2007

Mihai, Moselle Horiuchi, Cal Culbertson, Kathy Baillie, Jerry Baillie,  
Blaine Kinnebrew

Scribe – Blaine Kinnebrew  
Photographers - Moselle Horiuchi and Cal Culbertson

Maybe I should pretend I didn't go on this trip because my friends are going to think I've gone soft. But then again this was one of the most fun trips I've had in recent memory. We laughed, carried on and told outrageous tales. And the accommodations were damn good. Who needs a tent or bivy sack when you're staying in a 5-star US Forest Service lookout tower?

It was a drizzly, rainy kind of Saturday morning and the original objective was Magic Mountain. Earlier in the week Jerry and Kathy mentioned three lookout towers as possibilities given the wet forecast. We chose Lookout Mountain during our far less than 5-star Marblemount diner breakfast.

Not too far down Cascade River Road is the trailhead. In fact when you're in beautiful downtown Marblemount, it's the most prominent, nearby peak as you look East.

4 hours +/-, 4,000 feet +/- and 4 miles +/- later we were nice and dry and about 40 feet above the top of Lookout Mountain with drop dead, gorgeous views of the interior of a North Cascades rain cloud.

One of the first items on our entertainment agenda at the resort was having Kathy read from the log book. This sometimes funny exercise yielded a delightful surprise when we discovered the previous guest noted that s/he had stashed a half bottle of tequila for us.

The lookout, a ~20 foot by ~20 foot single room, was surprisingly well stocked with stoves, cookware, silverware, plastic-ware, two beds, chairs, a table, sleeping bags, books, maps, games, etc. The most interesting furnishings were an anti-electric chair and an anti-electric foot stool. The bottom of each leg of these two life-saving devices was fitted with a glass insulator. The idea behind them is that during an electrical storm, you stand or sit on them and don't touch anything else to minimize your chances of becoming stinking human toast.

For dinner, we had loads of spaghetti with meat sauce, wine and french bread. For dessert, we celebrated the birthdays of two of our teammates with chocolate cake and chocolate pudding. Yum yum!

Afterwards, we settled down to several rounds of a disgusting card game called Presidents and Assholes. I didn't like it because I think I spent most of the game as either an asshole or a jerk.

The weather cleared later Saturday and early Sunday and in the dawn we were treated to truly breathtaking views of the North Cascades. Below was a pillow of white cotton that was broken by all of these seductive massifs. You had to have been there and maybe you will on one these wet weekends.



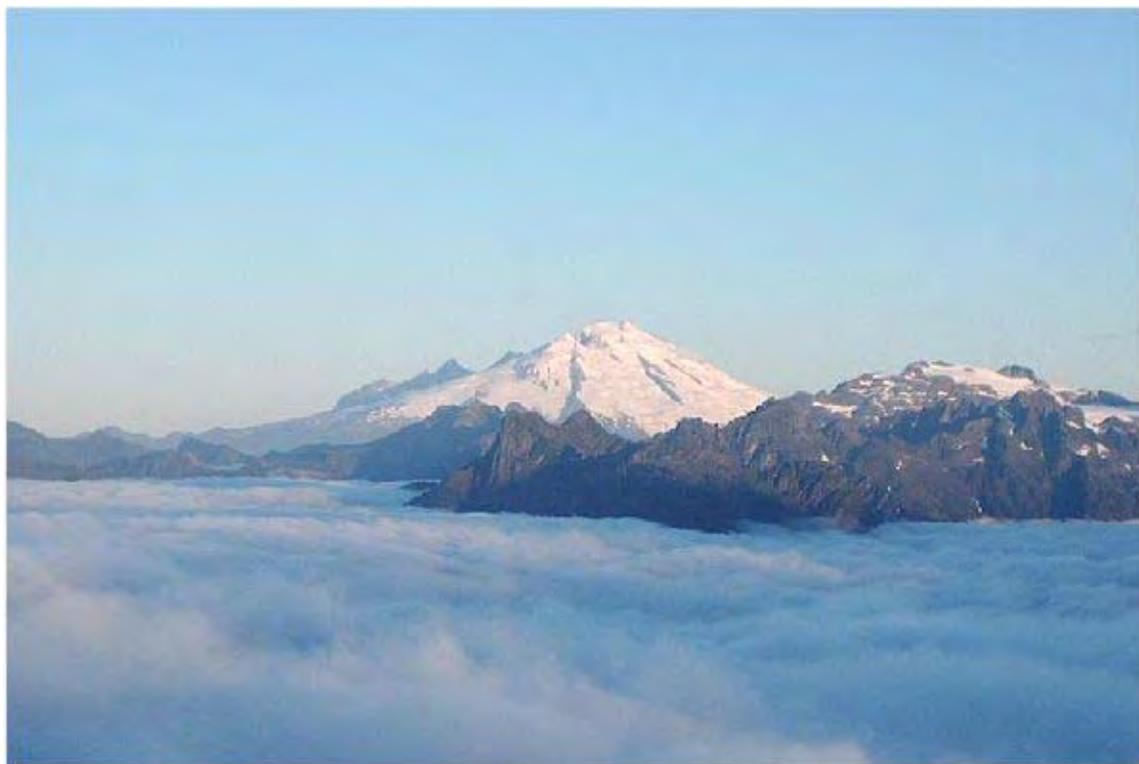
Mo, Cal, Jerry, Mihai, Kathy and Blaine



Morning Fog



Sunset from Lookout Mountain



First Light on Baker



Sunrise on Lookout Mountain



Blowing Out the Candles

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# *FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....*

*" For the world is hollow and I have touched the sky... "*

*- Unknown*

---

## *COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...*

- ELECTION RESULTS (If we can figure out how these darn voting machines work...)*
- MORE DETAILS ON THE ANNUAL BANQUET*
- MORE DETAILS ON THE ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST*
- MORE DETAILS ON THE WINTHROP SKI OUTING*
- MORE DETAILS ON THE UPCOMING WINTER SEMINARS*
- IN A NUTSHELL: MORE DETAILS !!!!*
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE... SO LEARN HOW TO READ NOW !*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 22 OCTOBER 2007...*

## BOEALPS 2007 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

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- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                      \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

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SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

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

ALPINE ECHO



*October Echo staff*

Editor: François Godcharles

Contributors:

Shella Knoll  
Charles Mencke  
John Gowan  
Blaine Kinnebrew

*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at [editor@boealps.org](mailto:editor@boealps.org), or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

NOVEMBER 2007

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

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**Boealps Banquet  
November 9  
Mountaineers Clubhouse**

Cocktails 6 PM  
Dinner 7PM  
Lower Queen Anne  
300 Third Avenue, Seattle

**Upcoming .....**

**Photo Contest  
December 6**

**2-22 Building  
6:30 PM**

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

Try to attend the Boealps Banquet Nov. 9. Register with Francois Godcharles by Nov. 2. The banquet is a good time to catch up with old friends and listen to accomplished climber Micah Dash.

The annual photo contest will be held at the December general meeting. Don't wait till the last minute to get those great shots you took recently.

The annual Winthrop X-country ski trip is planned for late January.

We can always use trip reports for the December issue!

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. Enjoy the Echo, and Happy Climbing !

One of your editors,  
Rich



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Seattle, WA. 98109  
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***GET 10 % DISCOUNT ON SELECTED GEAR WITH YOUR BOEALPS MEMBERSHIP CARD !!!***

## INDEX

CALENDAR.....	p. 4
SOCIETY NEWS.....	p. 5
BOEALPS EVENTS	
Annual Banquet.....	p. 7
Photo Contest.....	p. 9
REPORTS	
Outer Space by Emily Nyden.....	p. 10
The Tooth by Charles Mencke.....	p. 11
FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....	p. 13
BOEALPS 2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / WAIVER FORM.....	p. 14
BOEALPS CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.....	p. 15



# **ETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOCIETY NEWS...SOC**

...

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

Congratulations to our newly elected officers and thanks to the large crowd that showed up at Stellar's Pizza for the elections.

Shella Knoll - President  
Robyn Garrison - Vice President  
Francois Godcharles - Treasurer  
Andrea Vandehey - Secretary  
Bob Bautista - Past President

## **BCC CHIEF INSTRUCTOR WANTED !!!**

Regrettably, at the April Boealps board meeting Jerry Baillie, our long time BCC chief instructor, informed the board that he has decided to step down next year. Jerry has agreed to help prepare the person attempting to fill his shoes. In order to ensure we have a smooth transition we need to identify candidates for the chief instructor position as soon as possible.

If you are interested in the chief instructor position, please let one of the board members know. The board is currently working on a selection process for determining the chief instructor and will provide those details to the candidates identified. According to Jerry, the position is much more dependent upon organizational and personality skills, rather than actual climbing skills; so please don't feel that you have to be the best or most experienced climber to be a serious candidate.

...

## **AGRIS MORUSS FUND**

For those new members who may not be aware of it, or those faithful members who may have forgotten, The Agris Moruss Fund is still alive and well and accessible to members. The Fund was created in the late 80's to uphold the memory and spirit of a beloved Boealps instructor and awards grants yearly to expeditions organized by Boealps members.

If you are planning such a trip and would like to apply for a grant from the Agris Moruss fund, please contact any of the Boealps Board members or the fund's Board of Trustees (see Echo front page for contact information).

...

## **OCTOBER ELECTION RESULTS**

Our officers for 2008 were selected last month.

...

	Pro Mountain Sports 5625 University Way NE Seattle, WA 98105	206-522-1627 <a href="http://www.ProMountainSports.com">www.ProMountainSports.com</a>
<i>DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO BOEALPS MEMBERS ON SELECTED GEAR !!!</i>		

## **WINTRHOP SKI TRIP**

The X-country ski weekend in January provides an excellent opportunity to get out in the dark days of winter. We have a reservation for a new Winthrop location, January 25-27, 2008. Note this is not the desired MLK Jr. weekend of January 18-20; the Westar Lodge (our normal venue) has been sold, and is now called The Bend in the River - and it's booked for MLK Jr. weekend already. Price will go up: old = \$500/night, new = \$600/night. Cost per Boealper for the trip is likely \$90-\$100, still a bargain. Note this will not be Super Bowl weekend (that's Sunday, Feb.3), so football aficionados have no excuse.

Winthrop is among one of the top 10 x-country ski destinations in the U.S., with over 200 km of groomed trails and spectacular scenery. Don't miss out on this annual trip, which has featured some seriously good meals, excellent Winthrop Brewing Co. beer on tap, and music/games/etc. Families welcome.

As always, we'll be looking for a trip leader.

### ***THE ECHO ARCHIVES***

The ambitious Echo Archiving Project is still looking for volunteers to continue the work of Tony Olejnicki. The Project needs a new leader and team to help track down missing issues of the Echo (a large number of issues from the 1970's have mysteriously disappeared...), and to help prepare the archives for release on the web site. If you can volunteer some time to help out, please contact Micah Nolin (micah.nolin@boeing.com)

...

### ***NEXT BOARD MEETING***

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13 November 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.



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# Annual Banquet

## The BoeAlps 2007 Annual Banquet

presents a special evening with

# Micah Dash

Friday, November 9th @ The Mountaineers Building - Queen Anne, Seattle

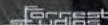
Cocktails @ 6:00, Dinner @ 7:00

for more information go to [www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)



Photo by Jonny Copp  
Micah straddles the summit ridge  
on the first ascent of Shaffat  
Fortress in India's Zaskar range.  
(VI 5.11 M6 A1, 21 pitches, 1100m)



flyer by: 

**Micah Dash is hopelessly obsessed with climbing.**

Join us Friday, November 9th at our Annual Banquet as Micah will be speaking on his recent epic first ascent of the Shaffat Fortress in Kashmir India with Jonny Copp. His show will also include cutting edge free-climbing in Yosemite and Indian Creek Utah.



**Boeing Employees Alpine Society**

*2007 Annual Banquet*

*The Boeing Employees Alpine Society  
cordially invites you to its annual BOEALPS banquet  
to be held on*

*Friday 9 November 2007*

*at the Summit Room of the Mountaineers Clubhouse  
300 Third Avenue West, Seattle, WA, 98119*

*Cocktails 6:00pm*

*Dinner 7:00pm*

*Guest Speaker: Micah Dash  
on his recent epic first ascent of the Shafat Fortress in Kashmir, India  
plus  
Skits, Door Prizes, See some old friends, Good for the soul !*

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

- Boealps Member**    \$40    Member ID: \_\_\_\_\_
- Non Member**    \$45

I will be accompanied by:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Additional Boealps Member(s)**    at    \$40    each
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Additional Non Member(s)**    at    \$45    each

Total payment enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: Banquet fees listed above do not include drinks, but a staffed bar will be available)

*To guarantee your reservation, please RSVP with your payment by 2 November 2007!  
Do not risk being turned away on banquet night: reserve your seat now !*

Mail completed form and payment to:

**François Godcharles** at MS 02-FL or 600 W. Olympic Pl. Apt#708, Seattle, WA 98119

# **BOEALPS Photo Contest**

## **Thursday, Dec. 6th, General Meeting**

Attention photo buffs! Dust off your negatives, download your memory cards and bring your best adventure photos to the BOEALPS photo contest during the November General Meeting. You must bring the actual pictures, developed or printed on paper (no slides or digital photos). As a suggestion, 8x10 sized pictures on nice photo paper tend to work best for presentation purposes. **Prizes will be awarded in each category (Feathered Friends gift certificates) and the winners will be featured in upcoming Echo newsletters and on the BOEALPS website!**

### **Contest Information:**

There will be 7 categories to enter your photos in this year. They are listed below with corresponding descriptions.

1. **Mountain Scene** – Any picture that displays the great alpine vistas we can never get enough of.
2. **Climbing** – Simple, show people climbing. Rock, ice, glacier, or your solo climb up City Park for the sponsors. Sorry, leave your pictures from bouldering at the gym at home; you're alpinists for goodness sake.
3. **Sunrise/Sunset** – Pretty self explanatory, your best sunrise and/or sunset pictures taken in the mountains.
4. **People** – Share the pictures of your friends you went climbing with or the people that you met along the way during your adventure.
5. **BOEALPS Class** – Show off what you learned or taught this year from the various classes you took or instructed: Basic Climbing Class, Basic Rock Class, or Intermediate Climbing Class.
6. **Humorous** – Come on, something funny must have happened when you went climbing, do you have a picture of it? Let's maintain some level of good taste here please. Don't show anything that you're mother wouldn't approve of.
7. **Nature/Wilderness** – This is a new category. It was created for all those miscellaneous pictures you take along the way on your climb such as the grove of alpine flowers, the marmot that tried stealing your food, or the mysterious looking forest you walked through during your approach.

\* No more than two photos can be submitted in each category per person.

Contact Mike Zalewski, [mjzalewsk@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzalewsk@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

Outer Space  
Date: October 14, 2007  
Location: Leavenworth, WA  
People: Emily Vinding Nyden, Nate Wilson

We ventured into the wild wild wilderness more commonly known as snow creek wall in Leavenworth to give "outer space" a try. Having ogled the route as we were climbing in Lworth for the BCC and BRC outings--and as it was the last viable opportunity of the year, we had to try it. Right from the start the day was exciting...a little bit before we were supposed to meet, I got a phone call "Emily....my car's gone...its been stolen...." a couple of hours later after paperwork and discussion with the Sheriff "I get a couple of these every day...." "We really can't track each car that gets stolen, its like missing people cases, there's just so much that we put it in the database and hope we happen across them..." (and other comforting thoughts) we were on the road.

The drive to lworth was absolutely beautiful, but driving through the pass we were alarmed to see the temperature drop down to freezing . We were glad to find the promised ~65 (and windy) weather when we reached lworth.

The approach to the wall was colorful--if we hadn't been able to see the wall most of the time we may never have made it (stopping to take pictures of every 3rd leaf). To get to the wall, we broke off the main trail onto the climber's trail to the base of the route, crossing a very slippery log en route (fortunately no spills on the way across).

As we reached the base of the climb, we heard one rope team on the first pitch "Hey---are you on belay?" ... \*groan\*--it sounded like someone even greener than us...but it turned out there was no need to worry-- there were no traffic jams on the route. After loading up with gear and hanging our bags in a tree to "hide" them from the goats (which, sadly, we never saw) we began the climb.

The first pitch was a breeze--but Nate chuckled at my surprise when I reached a little finger crack at the end of what looked like it should have been a simple pitch. The second pitch was a long traverse which we wound up simul-climbing for about 20 feet to avoid breaking it into two short pieces. The third pitch, the "crux pitch", started with a slippery little flake, but once past the first piece of pro--it was amazing. There are a few tricky (but amazing) balancy moves, a slightly pumpy traverse --a (blood filled) nearly-horizontal crack, a few more balancy moves and then a great belay ledge with a view out over lworth.

The fourth pitch (horrendous rope drag aside) was great--assuming you're good at route-finding..

The fifth and sixth pitches really made the route--two AMAZING hand cracks--climbing them felt like flying! The first had amazing chicken heads on either side, most of the way up (perfect hands, perfect feet!). The second started with a small finger crack, a few balancy moves, then another FANTASTIC hand crack (not so many chicken heads this time, but the crack was so good you didn't need them) another good belay at the top (but make sure you have small nuts for the anchor).

The last bit to the top was a face climb with a million huge chicken heads. You know those holds you see in the gym? The ones where you look at them and say "seriously. Come ON. There's NOTHING like that on real rock."---there's actually stuff like that on real rock. It was a wall covered with bomber holds. At the top we ran into a pair of climbers from Canada who had been climbing orbit, and after recruiting them to take our summit shot, we started the descent with them (we got left in the dust as we started taking pictures of all the leaves again on the way down) .

Overall the climb is AMAZING--fantastic rock, amazing pitches, all with awesome belay ledges (no hanging belays!! (\*yuck\*)), beautiful views... soooo good!

On the road home, the most amazing phone call came in--Nate's car was found--intact!

---

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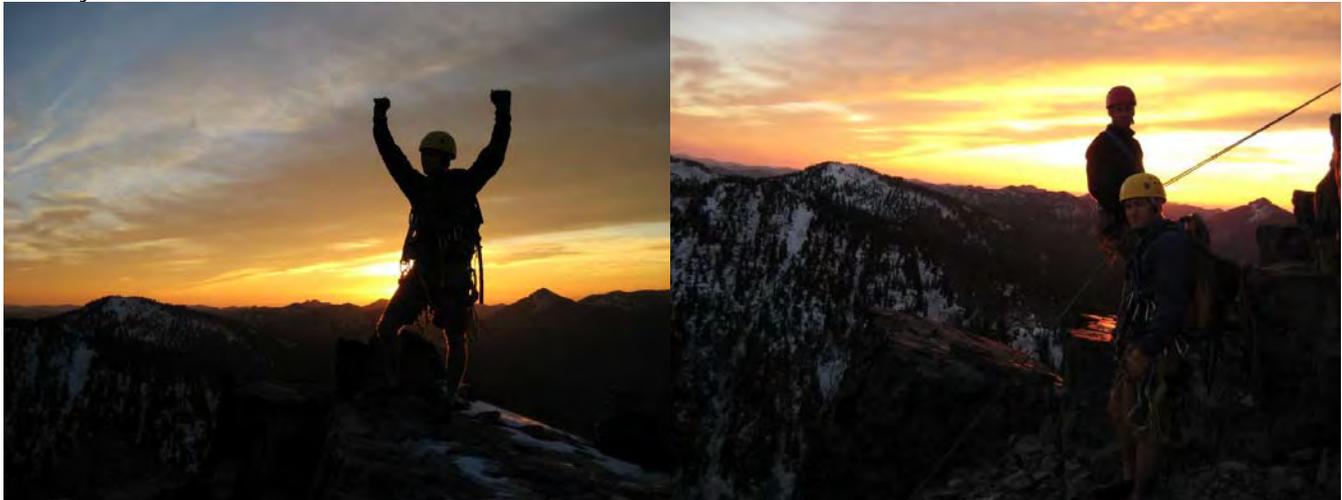
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**The Tooth**  
**October 27**  
**by Charles Mencke**

On Saturday 10/27 Matt Wetzel, Aaron Acklen and I climbed the Tooth. We underestimated the time it would take and summited at sunset (which made for great pictures!) The full moon and clear sky made the descent very pleasant actually.



**Aaron Acklen celebrating**

**Matt Wetzel prepares to rappel as Aaron Acklen double checks his setup**



**Matt Wetzel points out the descent path**



**Mt. Rainier and Aaron Acklen  
(synchronizing a flinch with the shutter.)**

**F O O D            F O R            T H O U G H T . . . . .**

“Well, you might live longer, but at least I’ll die with a full rack.”

-Craig Smith, arguing about rappel anchors with his partner, who wanted to leave another stopper.  
From The Quotable Climber, J. Waterman, ed.

*COMING NEXT MONTH IN THE ALPINE ECHO...*

—————→    *THE USUAL BUNCH OF BOEALPS NEWS, EVENTS, CLASSES AND SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS*

—————→    *YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*

—————→    *AND MUCH MUCH MORE... MAYBE...*

*DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMITTALS IS 26 November 2007...*

## BOEALPS 2008 Membership Application

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

BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check the Box that applies to you, then read and sign the liability release

- Member**                      \$20                      Boeing employees and retirees. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, including their spouses and dependents, subject to Recreation approval.
- Associate Member**                      \$20                      Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
- Retiree**                                      \$20                      Retiree in accordance with IRS definition
- Family**                                        \$0                      Spouses and dependents, as determined by the IRS, of Boeing employees and retirees. Domestic partners, as defined by Boeing, of employees and retirees. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family members must complete this form.
- Guest/Vol. Instr.**                      \$0                      Individuals who are otherwise not associated with Boeing, who participate in activities as guests or volunteer their time to instruct classes.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to:

**Thomas Ryan** at M/S 03-89 or 7036 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98115

ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

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

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

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

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: THOMAS RYAN at M/S 03-89  
OR: 7036 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
OR: thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

**NEWS ITEMS AND EDITORIAL COMMENTS  
IN THIS PUBLICATION DO NOT NECESSARILY  
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ALPINE ECHO



*November Echo staff*

Editor:  
Richard Humbert

Contributors:

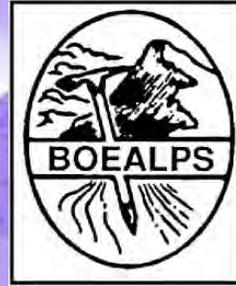
Shella Knoll  
Micah Nolin  
Francois Godcharles  
Emily Nyden  
Charles Mencke

*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at editor@boealps.org, or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*

# ALPINE ECHO

[www.boealps.org](http://www.boealps.org)

DECEMBER 2007



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# Freeze Frame!

IT'S THE ANNUAL BOEALPS PHOTO CONTEST AT THE GENERAL MEETING FEATURING OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHER ALAN BAUER !!!  
SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 10

**BOEALPS GENERAL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER**  
**6:30pm**  
**AT BOEING 2-22 BLDG**  
**7755 E MARGINAL WY S**



## INDEX

<b>BELAY STANCE</b> .....	- 3 -
<b>CLUB CALENDAR</b> .....	- 4 -
<b>SOCIETY NEWS</b> .....	- 6 -
<b>2007 SURVEY RESULTS</b> .....	- 8 -

### **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

<i>December General Meeting and Annual Photo Contest</i> .....	- 10 -
<i>Winter Outing Series</i> .....	- 11 -
<i>Intro to Backcountry Skiing &amp; Snowboarding Seminar</i> .....	- 12 -
<i>Avalanche Level 1 Courses Currently Offered</i> .....	- 13 -

### **TRIP REPORTS AND FEATURE ARTICLES**

<i>BOEALPS 2007 Annual Banquet Memories</i> .....	- 14 -
<i>Hiking While Blind</i> .....	- 17 -
<i>The Grand Wall (super) lite Variation</i> .....	- 23 -
<i>I drove, He Slept; the Complete North Ridge of Mount Stuart</i> .....	- 31 -
<i>NW Corner and West Face of North Early Winter Spire</i> .....	- 35 -

### **COLUMNS**

<b>CONSERVATION CORNER</b> .....	- 41 -
<b>FOOD FOR THOUGHT</b> .....	- 44 -

### **CLUB FORMS**

<i>BOEALPS 2008 Membership Application</i> .....	- 45 -
<i>BOEALPS 2008 Release of Liability</i> .....	- 46 -
<i>BOEALPS 2008 Change of Address Form</i> .....	- 47 -

# BELAY STANCE

Hello Boealpers and Boealperettes !

I knew this girl who had this uncanny ability. She'd be walking outside on a fresh October or November morning and she would stop suddenly, take a deep breath, and then she would announce with undeniable certainty: it's snowing in the mountains. And she would always be right. Weird. Well, if she was in Seattle these days, she would probably be sniffing the air constantly because the white stuff is being dumped all over the place ! Time to wax the snowboard and get ready to carve the hillsides !

This is also the time of year when, while waiting for the snow cover to build up and stabilize, climbers are trying to make good on their promise to document their greatest achievements of the past year. As a result, we have a giant Echo this month: a whopping 47 page edition !

You'll find outstanding rock climbing trip reports, and a truly inspiring piece from Ron Fleck, as well as other gems. Normally, I would fill this page with teaser prose, but I will leave you the pleasure of discovering it all this time. This Echo is awesome !

Just a few reminders then.

Don't forget to attend the Annual Photo Contest, at the December 6th General Meeting (details inside).

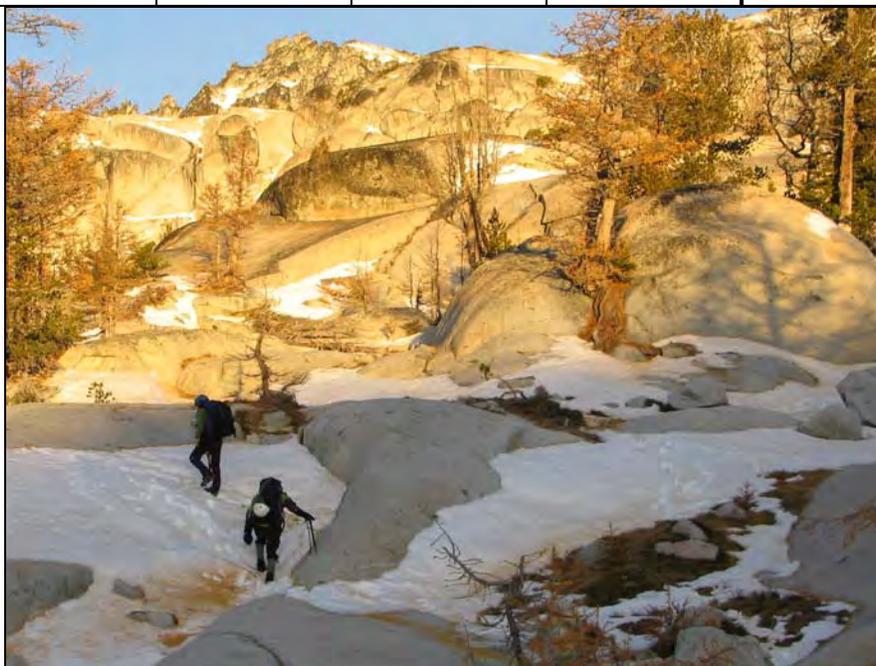
There are many, many activities taking place in December/January: it is time to sign up for the Winter Outing Series, the Winthrop Cross-Country Ski Trip, the new Backcountry Ski Seminar, the MOFA classes, the Ice Climbing Seminar, the BCC. Many of these have limited space, so contact the organizer and reserve your spot now. Contact information is in the Society News column or included in specific pages.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue, Enjoy the Echo, and see you on the slopes !!!!  
Oh, and be safe out there !

One of your editors,  
François

# CLUB CALENDAR

<b>December</b>				<b>2007</b>		
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
					1	2
3	4	5	6 General Meeting PHOTO CONTEST	7	8	9
10	11 Board Meeting	12	13	14	15	16 Winter Climb 1
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29	30 Winter Climb 2
31						



Golden Sunrise, Enchantments, 28-Oct.-07 (photo by F.Godcharles)



Tony Downs stitching up "Subject-Verb Agreement", 5.8, Red Rock Canyon, NV, 23-Nov-07 (photo by F.Godcharles)

<b>January</b>				<b>2008</b>		
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
	<b>1</b> NEW YEAR	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Board Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> General Meeting Backcountry Seminar 1	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Winter Climb 3
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Backcountry Seminar 2	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> MARTIN LUTHER KING	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Winthrop X-Country Ski Trip	<b>26</b> Backcountry Seminar 3	<b>27</b> Winter Climb 4
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

# ***SOCIETY NEWS***

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## ***NEW BOEALPS 2008 BOARD AND OFFICERS HELP WANTED !***

The newly elected Board is hard at work setting things up for the coming 2008 year, and transitioning from the old Board. The club has many challenges to face and many tasks at hand. And none of it can be achieved by the Board alone: ***we are counting on individuals to step forward and be part of the success of next year's activities, seminars, campouts, classes, meetings,....***

If you want to help out a little, a lot, once, always, please contact any of the Board members:

President: Shella Knoll  
Vice-President: Robyn Garrison  
Secretary: Andrea Vandehey  
Treasurer: François Godcharles  
Past President: Robert Bautista

Their contact information is on the front page of the Echo, always.

...

## ***BOEALPS ANNUAL WINTHROP CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRIP !!!***

The dates are set, reservations are made, ***all that is missing is someone to finalize the organizing and register participants ! How about stepping forward and helping out ?***

The trip will be from Friday January 25 to Sunday the 27th. Don't miss this opportunity to hit some of the 200km of ski trails in this outstanding area. Every year this trip fills up quickly, so don't be caught at the last minute ! Full details will be announced soon.

If interested in being the organizer or want to secure a spot now for this trip, please contact our Activities Chair:  
Bernie Knoll 253-970-5629 climb2alpine@yahoo.com

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## ***MOUNTAINEERING ORIENTED FIRST AID (MOFA) CLASSES***

Both a refresher class (required if your last MOFA training was 3 years or more ago...), and a full MOFA class are currently being planned, and set to take place in January and early February. Full details will be available soon.

If interested in helping out with these classes, or to secure a spot now for the refresher or full class, please contact:  
Moselle Horiuchi 206-356-3621 moselle\_horiuchi@hotmail.com

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## ***UPCOMING ICE CLIMBING SEMINAR***

Yes, there will be one !

It will happen some time between late January and late February. It will most likely be a trip to Lillooet, BC which is renowned for its grand waterfall ice climbs. The exact date has not been set yet because...well... the conditions of the ice is still unknown !

Details will be announced when finalized, but be prepared to be flexible with your schedule as there will only be a one to two-week notice prior to the trip. Keep an eye on the web site, and a club E-Mail will also be sent out.

If interested and want to secure a spot now for this seminar, please contact:  
Tom Ryan 206-527-2724 thomas.p.ryan@boeing.com

## **AVALANCHE AWARENESS SEMINAR**

Due to circumstances outside of Boealps control, we were unable to secure Gary Brill and set up this seminar this year. For those interested in taking this class this winter, please see the list of scheduled seminars happening throughout the Seattle area in the following pages. We'll try to set this up next year... again...

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## **JANUARY GENERAL MEETING**

Please take note that the January General Meeting will be taking place on Thursday 10 January, to allow everyone to get back from the Holidays and take a breather... The meeting will be at the same place (at the 2-22 building), same time (at 6:30pm).

Standby for guest speaker announcement: you will not want to miss this one !!!

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## **2008 BASIC CLIMBING CLASS**

Preparations are underway already for next year's BCC class !

We'll have an early start this year, with Orientation evening taking place on Wednesday 20 February.

Full schedule details, and application forms will be available shortly.

If interested in helping out with the class (organizing or instructing), please contact the BCC Chief Instructor:  
Morten Hansen 425-342-6647 morten.l.hansen@boeing.com

If interested in taking the class, please contact the Class Liaison:  
Dirk Visser 425-266-2268 dvisser1@netzero.net

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## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11 December 2007, at the usual Blue Star Café (4512 StoneWay N, Seattle, 98103). All BOEALPS members are welcomed to attend.

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# 2007 SURVEY RESULTS

## 1. Communication

- a. What is your preferred means of receiving or accessing BoeAlpS information:
- 30.43% I read all about the club's upcoming activities in the monthly Echo newsletter
  - 13.04% I access the website regularly and get all club information there
  - 56.52% I prefer receiving an E-Mail when club events are taking place
- b. When you access the website, what information are you typically looking for:
- 13.04% I use the links on the "Weather" page to get current reports and information
  - 52.17% I access the website once a month to download the Echo
  - 17.39% As a student in one of the classes, I use the website to get class information
  - 4.35% I browse through the list of club gear and available books of the club library
  - 13.04% I don't use the website

Comments      **low level of satisfaction regarding reliability, accessibility, outdated information  
would like message board forum to find climbing partners, route descriptions, trip reports  
possibility to renew membership on-line**

## 2. Club Equipment and Resources

- a. Do you make use of the club gear, and what equipment do you most often borrow:
- 35.29% Yes, I typically use the following club gear:  
Tents, avy beacons, snowshoes, ice tools
  - 41.18% I'm interested in borrowing club gear, but I don't know what the procedure is
  - 23.53% No, I have no use for club gear
- b. What gear would you like to see the club acquire and make available to the membership:
- snow shovels, GPS software, 2-man tents  
Comment: **No access to current inventory**
- c. Do you make use of the club library, and what type of document or book do you most often borrow:
- 0% Yes, I typically borrow the following type of document from the library:
  - 70.59% I would be interested in borrowing from the club library, but I don't know what the procedure is
  - 29.41% No, I have no use for the club library

## 3. Membership Benefits

- a. Were you aware that your membership allows you to get discounts at various stores and services in the Seattle area:
- 23.53% Yes, I always mention that I am a BoeAlpS member when shopping for gear
  - 29.41% I have heard that some stores offer discounts for BoeAlpS but I don't know exactly which stores
  - 47.06% No, I didn't know
- b. What additional stores, clubs, or service providers would you like to see offering discounts for BoeAlpS members:
- REI, Marmot Mountain Works, Stone Gardens climbing gym, south end shops, gear repair shop

#### 4. Seminars

a. BoeAlpS occasionally can put together weekend seminars on specific aspects of mountaineering. Which of the following seminars would be of interest to you:

- 25.81% Lead Climbing Seminar
- 22.58% Aid Climbing Seminar
- 25.81% Ice Climbing Seminar
- 25.81% Ski Mountaineering Seminar
- 0% Other
- 0% None. I have no interest in BoeAlpS seminars

#### 5. Monthly General Meeting

a. How often do you attend the monthly general meeting:

- 27.78% A few times a year
- 55.56% I attend when the speaker is of interest to me
- 0% Every month
- 16.67% Never

b. Do you find the current location of the meeting (Building 2-22) adequate, accessible and convenient ?

- 93.75% Yes
- 6.25% No. Comments: **2-22 is too far from Everett**

c. How can we make the monthly general meetings more interesting and valuable for you ?

Good speakers

Comment: **Send reminder**

#### 6. Additional Comments / Suggestions:

Boealps merchandising, positive feedback from membership cards and logo decal

NOTE: Survey results compiled from a total of 17 returned survey forms.

lic. #MA00016657

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## December General Meeting and Annual Photo Contest

# **BOEALPS Photo Contest** **Thursday, Dec. 6th, General Meeting** **6:30pm at the 2-22 Building** **Featuring Outdoor Photographer Alan Bauer**

Attention photo buffs! Dust off your negatives, download your memory cards and bring your best adventure photos to the BOEALPS photo contest during the November General Meeting. You must bring the actual pictures, developed or printed on paper (no slides or digital photos). As a suggestion, 8x10 sized pictures on nice photo paper tend to work best for presentation purposes. **Prizes will be awarded in each category (Feathered Friends gift certificates) and the winners will be featured in upcoming Echo newsletters and on the BOEALPS website!**

### **Contest Information:**

There will be 7 categories to enter your photos in this year. They are listed below with corresponding descriptions.

1. **Mountain Scene** – Any picture that displays the great alpine vistas we can never get enough of.
2. **Climbing** – Simple, show people climbing. Rock, ice, glacier, or your solo climb up City Park for the sponsors. Sorry, leave your pictures from bouldering at the gym at home; you're alpinists for goodness sake.
3. **Sunrise/Sunset** – Pretty self explanatory, your best sunrise and/or sunset pictures taken in the mountains.
4. **People** – Share the pictures of your friends you went climbing with or the people that you met along the way during your adventure.
5. **BOEALPS Class** – Show off what you learned or taught this year from the various classes you took or instructed: Basic Climbing Class, Basic Rock Class, or Intermediate Climbing Class.
6. **Humorous** – Come on, something funny must have happened when you went climbing, do you have a picture of it? Let's maintain some level of good taste here please. Don't show anything that your mother wouldn't approve of.
7. **Nature/Wilderness** – This is a new category. It was created for all those miscellaneous pictures you take along the way on your climb such as the grove of alpine flowers, the marmot that tried stealing your food, or the mysterious looking forest you walked through during your approach.

\* No more than two photos can be submitted in each category per person.

Contact Mike Zalewski, [mjzalewsk@yahoo.com](mailto:mjzalewsk@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

## Winter Outing Series



Come join us for a Winter Climb, or two, or six.

<u>Skills Required:</u>	Basic Class or equivalent
<u>Physical Difficulty:</u>	Typically 3-4,000 ft. elevation gain plus x-country travel on snowshoes
<u>Gear Required:</u>	Snowshoes, shovel, avalanche beacon, ice axe, ski poles
<u>Where:</u>	It depends, but somewhere higher than home and within a 2 hr. drive.
<u>When:</u>	12/16, 12/30, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24

We handle all arrangements via the web. Jump on the distribution list by dropping a note containing your preferred email address to Mike Bingle [mbingle@comcast.net](mailto:mbingle@comcast.net). The week before the trip an announcement comes out with details on destination, where to meet, and all that good stuff. Sign ups are on line via a Yahoo Group poll.



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[www.featheredfriends.com](http://www.featheredfriends.com)

**GET 10 % DISCOUNT ON SELECTED GEAR WITH YOUR BOEALPS MEMBERSHIP CARD !!!**

# Intro to Backcountry Skiing & Snowboarding Seminar

Tired of the crowded ski resort scene? Want to get more untracked powder runs? How about using your skis for your next winter climb approach, or maybe even a ski descent? If so, this course will help you take your skiing or snowboarding to exciting new places this winter!



**Objective:** The goal of this seminar is to provide intermediate to advanced level skiers and snowboarders an introduction to the equipment, techniques and joys of backcountry skiing. Combined with a prerequisite Level 1 Avalanche course, this seminar is designed to give the lift-serviced resort skier the skills, techniques and confidence to get out into the backcountry on skis on their own.

**Overview:** We will begin with a discussion on the different types of equipment and techniques used in backcountry ski travel. Then, skills will be introduced and practiced over two 1-day weekend outings. An optional follow-on series of outings will be offered over the course of the winter after the seminar.

## **Prerequisites**

Level 1 Avalanche course. A list of courses offered in the area is provided. Sign up ASAP!  
Intermediate skiing ability  
Boealps BCC or equivalent recommended but not required

**Cost:** No cost other than purchase/rental of the required equipment and the Level 1 Avalanche course.

**Class Size:** Maximum of 15 students. First 15 registrations with an Avalanche Level 1 course accepted.

## **Seminar Sessions**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topics Covered</b>	<b>Location</b>
Thu Jan 10 <sup>th</sup>	7-9 PM	Backcountry ski equipment & gear selection	Classroom TBA
Sat Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Backcountry ski travel skills practice outing	Silver Basin, Crystal Mountain
Sat Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Experience outing	TBA based on conditions

**Required Equipment:** Avalanche transceiver, shovel, probe, skis with alpine touring / telemark bindings or split board, climbing skins, poles. Most items may be rented if needed.

**To Sign Up:** Email the following info to Chris Meder ([chrismeder@earthlink.net](mailto:chrismeder@earthlink.net))

Equipment type (telemark, alpine touring, or snow/splitboard).  
Confirmation of Avalanche Level 1 course completion or enrollment  
Phone number

**Questions?** Contact Chris Meder at [chrismeder@earthlink.net](mailto:chrismeder@earthlink.net).

## Avalanche Level 1 Courses Currently Offered

**NOTE: Course REQUIRED Prior to Enlisting in Backcountry Skiing Seminar**

### Seattle REI

Dates: Dec. 3, 10, 17 (lectures), field trip date also required

[http://www.rei.com/stores/store\\_event\\_detail.jsp?pid=5EE60A9BEF5AEE80C9E4439BFF5BD95F&template\\_id=30&template\\_family=webDetail&ignore\\_cache=1](http://www.rei.com/stores/store_event_detail.jsp?pid=5EE60A9BEF5AEE80C9E4439BFF5BD95F&template_id=30&template_family=webDetail&ignore_cache=1)

Cost: \$100 (does not include field session)

### Everett Mountaineers

Dates: Nov 29, Dec 4, 6 (lectures), Dec 8-9 (field trips)

[http://www.everettmountaineers.org/skiing/skiing\\_courses.cfm](http://www.everettmountaineers.org/skiing/skiing_courses.cfm)

Non-member cost: \$175 (includes field trips)

### Seattle Foothills Mountaineers (downtown Seattle Branch)

Dates: Dec 6, 12, 13 (lectures), Dec 16-17 (field trips)

Requires Basic Avalanche Awareness Course or equivalent (BCC avalanche awareness lectures should be sufficient – let organizer know this when you sign up)

<http://www.foothillsmountaineers.org/winter/avy.html>

Non-member cost: \$150 (includes field trips)

### Marmot Mountain Works, Bellevue

Dates: Jan 8, 15, 22 (lectures), Jan 12 or 19 or 20 (field trip) \*\*

[http://marmotmountain.com/events\\_wa.htm](http://marmotmountain.com/events_wa.htm)

Cost: \$185 (includes field trips)

### International Mountain Guides

Dates: Jan 12-13

<http://www.mountainguides.com/avalanche.shtml>

Cost: \$295

### Pro Guiding Service

Dates: Jan 14-16

<http://www.proguiding.com/trip/view/aiare-avalanche-course-level-1>

Cost: \$275

\*\* Note: The Marmot Mountain course schedule is not complete by the start of the BC ski seminar. This is acceptable, but the other courses are preferred for this reason.

## ***BOEALPS 2007 Annual Banquet Memories***



*A roomful of happy climbers in the Mountaineers Summit Room*



*Can you say: "New BCC Chief Instructor" ?  
(congratulations Morten !)*



*Those chocolate-dipped strawberries were something  
else... right Signe ?*



*Brian, who would end up going home with a brand new rope as one of our raffle winners  
(Mike Clark in the background signing his book for Ambrose)*



*Len, our "Conversation" Chair, talking it up with newly elected Prez Shella about how to save the world (or something...)*



**COFFEE !**  
*Much needed during the unavoidable club announcement speeches...*



*"You take that picture and I'll Sean-Penn you !"  
(he didn't... he's all talk...)*



*Our two outgoing Chief Instructors Ambrose and Jerry crossing commemorative pickets with club president Bob*



*Our outstanding guest speaker Micah Dash, answering questions from a captive Boealps crowd (above), and mingling after his presentation with some anonymous poser (right)*



**...AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL !!!**

**SEE YOU ALL AGAIN NEXT YEAR !!!!**

# Hiking While Blind

By Ron Fleck; Photos by Cheryl, Charlie, and Bernie

No doubt some of you think this refers to being caught in a white out on the Muir snowfield (more about that later), and while that can certainly be an adventure, this is about hiking with my co-worker Bruce, who lost his sight in his early 20's, more than 20 years ago. I met him a few years ago after I had transferred to this job. In the process of getting to know my new co-workers, I told Bruce, who used to get outdoors a fair amount before his accident, that I would take him hiking some time. I figured that it would take most of a day and I'd do something such as Annette Lake, where I often take beginners. It's just 3 ½ miles or so and gains about 1,800 ft – what I consider a relatively easy hike. When he told me that he had already done it long ago and that it was a “wimpy” hike, I knew that I would have my hands full.

In addition to numerous weekends outdoors, once daylight savings rolls around I also do a once-a-week after work hike with some climbing buddies in order to keep up our hiking legs. We typically start out with Tiger Mt. in April and from mid-May through mid-July we tackle hikes such as Old Si, Mailbox, Bandera, and the like. These all gain 3,000 – 4,000 ft in the course of about 4 miles, give or take. In order to do them after work, we have to move quickly and constantly so that we return before dark. It just so happens that for our first hike in the summer of 2005, Bruce volunteered himself to go on the group trip up McClellan's Butte. Considering the effort you have to expend to get up and down McClellan's in 4+ hours, this was not what I had in mind. But I didn't know how to say no, so I figured that we'd get as far as we got before our turn around time and call it a night.

The way we worked it out was that I would be in front and have some long straps attached to my pack. These acted as a tether for Bruce and he was basically two steps behind me, holding onto the straps, with me calling out obstacles as we went. Charlie was behind Bruce and tried to guide him from the rear. Since I had to pay close attention to all the obstacles in front, I could not really look behind myself and progress at the same time. If I did, then I would be the one falling down. At the outset, Bruce seemed to yank on the straps all the time and it felt as if I was dragging him along, my frustration level mounting quite quickly – much like being constantly tugged on a rope when glacier climbing. Considering that he was 1 ½ - 2 steps behind me and had to process that two step delay from what I had been calling out, he was often out of synch. But with some practice he developed a lighter touch and I felt no tugging at all. In fact, he became quite good at sensing the movement of the straps and going with the flow.

Of course, I soon learned that what I used to consider a “reasonable” trail was more like a mine field to someone who can't see. Being the eyes for someone else really opened my eyes to what is a good trail and what is just chock-full of obstacles. I did most of the talking and it went something like this:

Tree root right, up about 8 inches.

Angle left across a transverse downed log – up and across about a foot.

Smooth sailing for about 10 feet,

The trail narrows to about 2 feet. You'll feel brush on your right side.

Duck left from an overhang.

Up left about 10 inches onto a slabby rock.

Step right across a crick to the tree root that's up 8.

Now we're in a lattice of tree roots that are mostly parallel to the path

Now switchback hard left, the trail drops off steeply left.

etc.

All of this could happen within 30 feet or less. Imagine doing 5 miles and 3,600 ft of gain in this fashion to get to the top of McClellan's – it's just not going to happen after work. I soon became aware of just how difficult a trail McClellan's was. Then there were the difficulties that I could not easily sense since he was behind me. On switchbacks Bruce had a tendency to swing too wide, much like a car tending to drift in a curve, and would occasionally slide off and down the trail, pulling me with him. So I soon learned to also call out the edge of the trail, remind him how wide it was, and remind him that there was still a drop off and how steep it was, on whatever was the downhill side. On this first outing we went for about 2 hours until our turn-around time of 7:00 and by that time we had gained approximately 2000 ft. Quite remarkable, I thought, all things considered. Even though he was completely drenched in sweat, he wanted to keep going. I told him that we wanted to get back before dark. His immediate rejoinder was “Ron, I'm not afraid of the dark”, with just a slight twinge of sarcasm. I told him that I

wasn't either (we always have headlamps along – part of our 10 essentials), but if I couldn't see well, then neither of us was getting down very easily and it would get dangerous. So around we turned.

If I thought the ascent was tough, the descent was even tougher. Imagine that you are walking along a sidewalk, not paying attention, and you step off a curb, dropping 4 inches or so to the street below. Most of us stumble, perhaps almost sprain an ankle, and maybe drop whatever we're holding. Now imagine you have hundreds of such drop-offs, you don't know where the bottom is, and you are literally groping around with your foot for every nebulous and potentially unstable toe-hold to latch onto. Such is the descent for Bruce. In order to prevent him from killing himself, as well as not stumbling into me and also taking me down, whenever there was a step-off of more than a couple inches I came to a complete stop and let Bruce ease himself down the step. Then we could proceed until the next one, usually just a few steps farther. It was VERY slow going. What we found was that the descent took as long as, if not longer, than the ascent. Also try to imagine how much energy you expend when each and every step is uncertain. I'd be willing to bet that he burns up 3 times as many calories as I do, just from all the difficulties in finding a secure toe-hold.

Bruce also carried his cane, mainly to feel for the edges of the trail and to also sense how far down the step might be. At first other people on the trail would give a quizzical look, hearing me calling out the obstacles and seeing this guy following so close on my heels. But once they saw the cane it all registered and they would graciously step aside and let us pass.

Over the next couple months we did West Tiger 3 several times as it has relatively few obstacles. We varied the route to keep it interesting. We gave the cable line a go more than once, but only when dry, and after being on the same trail a couple times, Bruce knew where the obstacles were sooner than I saw them. His mental map seemed to be just as accurate as my visual one. Near the end of the summer we got up the cable line in just under an hour – pretty amazing to gain 2,000 ft. on what is essentially a rugged climber's trail with someone who cannot see.

For that summer's "high point" I figured that we could go up Granite Mt. as an all day event. It is more of a challenge than Tiger and is almost twice the elevation gain. In addition, my friend Cheryl (affectionately known as the "cookie lady"), who staffs the lookout on various weekends, would be there with the lookout open and would provide fresh baked cookies and tea – quite the incentive. I enlisted several others from the Weds. evening hikes for assistance. Suffice it to say, Granite has many more obstacles than I had recalled from my numerous hikes up there. I had always considered it a good, though somewhat steep trail. However, I took for granted how easy it was for me to navigate the knee-high steps, the various boulders blocking  $\frac{3}{4}$  of portions of the trail, and other normal trail hindrances. About  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the way up, Bruce banged his head on a sloping branch that angled across the trail. I had been watching my feet, and by extension his, but my ball cap prevented this angling tree from coming into my field of view. Since he was behind me about a foot to my right, it was just enough to bonk him on the head. Had he been a mere 6 inches left, he would have just passed underneath, unscathed. Man, was I surprised and apologetic when he stopped suddenly and I realized that I had overlooked what would normally be an easy thing to avoid.



**At the Lookout - Bruce 2nd from Right**

It took us 4 hours to get to the lookout. Although he was pretty beat and sopping wet with sweat, Bruce was grinning from ear-to-ear at his accomplishment. Cookies and tea never tasted better. Our descent took an equal amount of time and that's where we realized that he had to approach all the steep drop-offs sideways. In that fashion he could still have part of his body leaning uphill and could do an easier braking and weight transfer than stepping down, facing directly forward. This was also a safety move to keep all of us upright. I also came to realize how large some of the drop-offs along the trail were. He must have stumbled or slid off the trail a dozen times. And every time he would get mad at himself for such a mistake, always vowing to do better. I figured that he would get mad at me for not being his eyes well enough, but that never happened. After the 4 hour descent he was completely spent and if we had to walk a couple hundred yards farther, I'm not sure he could have done it.

The following summer we did more of the same on our Wednesday evenings. My hiking and climbing buddies now paid more attention to the “ease” of the trails and tried to come up with an overall obstacle degree of difficulty. The other thing we considered was the number of creek crossings. Think of how you have to cross a creek and step on just the right rock, at the right angle, and quickly move to the next. Otherwise you’re getting your feet wet. So we tried to keep those crossings to a minimum – not an issue on Tiger. The “Adventure” for the summer of 2006 was Eagle Peak in the Tatoosh. On a May climb there, Charlie noticed how benign the lower trail was (at least before he hit the tons of snow). So we attempted it in August when it was completely dry. The trail stops at the Eagle saddle, but John, Charlie, and I had climbed it several times with the Boealps basic class and knew that the 25 feet or so of low 5<sup>th</sup> class rock was very “clean”, meaning that there was essentially no loose rock for someone such as Bruce to knock onto people below. The approach went as planned and fairly quickly. Once at the base of the rock, John led it and Charlie followed. John belayed Bruce, while Charlie guided him from the top of the pitch (the belay tree is about 15 feet back from the lip) and I guided from below. He joked that he climbed by the “grope” method and in a flash he was up and over the lip. Actually the traverse on the ridge to the true summit seemed more difficult than the rock climb. Bruce thoroughly enjoyed his quick rappel and we were heading home again. In fact, he was hoping that we could do more climbing and rappelling the rest of the day.



**Eagle Mt. Trail - Bruce Close Behind**



**Climbing Eagle**



**Eagle Summit - Bruce, Ron, John, Charlie**



## On Rappel!!

In the winter of 2007 we took Bruce snowshoeing up the logging road from the Gold Creek snow park. We knew that it was safe from avalanches, and being a road, allowed a wide berth for him to be on. For Bruce, this turned out to be quite the liberating experience. He did not have to be tethered to anyone and used the ski poles just as we did. He navigated by sound and stayed close to us as we chugged up the road. Even with the shoes, we fell in as many post holes as he did, and having sight often proved to have little advantage for us. Heck, he may have had a better “feel” for the snow than we did, even considering that we have done hundreds of snow climbs – we just let our eyes allow us to take more for granted. The snow seemed to be the great equalizer and gave him a freedom from obstacles that a normal trail would not allow.

With this in mind, we set a climb to camp Muir as the goal for the summer of 2007. Even though there are quite a number of large, high, rocky steps on the trail up to Pebble Creek, we figured that once on the snow field he would be free again, could do something more challenging with the altitude gain, and could do more of what might be considered a “climb”. The opportunity presented itself in late August with the Boealps summer BBQ at Muir. The idea was to take a hibachi, burgers, dogs, chips, and all the trimmings to Muir and have a cookout at 10,000 ft. Not only was this an opportunity for Bruce to see how he would do “at altitude”, but for several of us, the novelty of a BBQ at Muir made it all the more intriguing.

As luck would have it, the forecast was not particularly great. At Paradise we were in the fog and mist, partially blind ourselves. But we decided that we’d at least go to Pan Point and if the weather was still “disagreeable” we’d turn back. Fortunately it slowly cleared and we kept pushing higher. The steep and closely-spaced, chiseled stone steps on the Skyline Trail were a challenge for Bruce, and the group quickly bunched up. But he kept overcoming each of those splendidly. Of course, there is a creek crossing at Pebble Creek even in August, and the narrowest crossing seemed to have the rocks that teetered the most. This was a group effort and everyone gave Bruce some assistance in getting across. His borrowed climbing boots got only slightly wet. Given that it was late August, the snow was fairly firm and had mild sun cups all the rest of the way. There was a beaten path, but it was shallow and easy to wander off. Even with guidance it proved very difficult for Bruce to stay in that path. His feet slip enough as it is, without the added energy expenditure of constantly straying onto the firmer, untrammed, more slippery snow. And getting to Muir is all about conserving energy. Within about 10 minutes we realized that he would need the crampons after all. If he was slipping the next 2,500 ft. to Muir then he’d be completely shot and it would be tough to get back down. The crampons provided more than enough traction to conserve his energy and keep us climbing.



**Crossing Pebble Creek - with assistance**



**On the Snowfield - 8500 ft.**

Once above 8,000 ft. the skies cleared intermittently, but the wind picked up. Bruce tended to stray more as he could no longer hear the steps just 6-8 feet in front of him due to the 20 mph wind, and the hat to keep his ears warm in that wind. To overcome the wind, one of us stayed very close in front, and another in back to keep him in the beaten path as much as possible. Of course, Bruce has no concept of the undulating snow field and how Muir tempts you with its "apparent" proximity. It seems so close, but you never quite get there. Once very close to the



**At Muir - John, Bruce, Ron, Extreme Privett**

camp one has the illusion that it's only 10 minutes away, but for those of us who know better, we realize we still have 30 minutes to go. Bruce did not have to suffer from such delusions and disappointments. Fortunately he had no issues with the thin air and we arrived at Muir about 5 hours after leaving the cars. Even though I've been to Muir at least 20 times, helping Bruce get there, with the added bonus of smelling those burgers grilling when we arrived, was a high point of my summer.

We were hoping that we could just plunge step down, but the firm snow, combined with the sun cups proved a bit too daunting for Bruce to tackle on his own. Further, the natural fall line kept him drifting off towards the

Nisqually and not in the middle of the snow field. Even wearing crampons, he had to take hold of my arm all the way down so he could have a decent reference point. Heck, all of us slid and fell a couple times under those conditions. The descent was not as easy as I had hoped, but in this case, we still got down the snow in half the time it took to ascend it. As is typical for Bruce, the descent on the trail portion took the same time as the ascent. Back at the parking lot everyone was tremendously impressed with Bruce's courage and fortitude in making this trip. In fact, several people asked if he would like to try climbing the mountain and if so, they wanted to be along to assist. That is probably more than we could reasonably accomplish, but it got me thinking that Adams' south side, being glacier free, might be a good goal for 2008. All in all it was a fabulous day.



**At Muir - Hot Dog in Hand**

In describing these experiences to others, the question I often get is "What does Bruce get out of this"? Given that he can't see, he can't appreciate the mountains as we sighted people can. Still, Bruce did grow up here and has a good knowledge of the area. So he has at least a sense of where he is and what is around him. I also describe the vistas that we have and do my limited best to give him a sense of place and the beauty around us. Certainly, getting out on a trail and into the mountains under most any conditions is better than just walking on a treadmill in your garage. Further, he has a more acute sense for the smells and sounds that encompass him than we do and no doubt appreciates that more than we do. He has described the snow shoe outings as ones of "empowerment" and words fail him at the pure joy of "simply navigating".

As for me – this experience has literally opened my eyes to many of the things that I take for granted. I doubt that I'll ever consider anything an "easy" trail again. I now tend to think in obstacle count and whether a trail is "Bruce friendly" or not. It has also made me further appreciate the tremendous and unselfish efforts that so many have made, especially among the WTA volunteers, to not only create trails but also to keep them in such wonderful shape. So the next time you venture outdoors, think of how you would do if you could not "see" the trail. Think of all the effort that goes into making the trails as good as they are and what all of us can do to make them even better.

#### **Epilog:**

In late October I was back up McClellan's again for the first time in two years, with a few folks who had never been there. It seems that there has been a tremendous amount of work on the middle portion of the trail, no doubt due to WTA efforts, and it now seems much more "Bruce friendly". Another goal for 2008 might be to bring some ropes for the summit block and have Bruce go full circle by climbing the peak where this all started.

# *The Grand Wall (super) lite Variation*

By Oscar Montoya



The Chief and Slesse Mountain ([www.summitpost.org](http://www.summitpost.org))

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, Ambrose and I climbed the (super) lite variation of the Grand Wall on Squamish. The original intent was to climb Navigator Wall up by Slesse Mountain. However I had to attend a wedding on Saturday of that weekend, so we were going to climb Navigator Wall on Sunday. This is a report on why we climbed the Grand Wall instead of Navigator Wall.

All plans always look so good on paper, however once you try to execute them; well they just don't work as originally planned. The original plan to climb Navigator Wall was to meet at 11pm or so near Chilliwack in Canada, park the cars near Slesse, get some sleep and start hiking around 3am toward Slesse. What I didn't count on was that I didn't leave the party until 11pm, because I had two voices in my mind telling me two completely different things.

**Irresponsible Mind:** Oscar why are you going to suffer and drive all the way to Slesse to climb, when you know that you are gonna be cold, probably gonna suffer a lot getting up the mountain and very likely end up in a epic. Besides, the salmon that you are eating is pretty good, you are having a good time with your friends, and how about you just start drinking and relax. Just tell Ambrose that you can climb the route any other time.

**Responsible Mind:** Oscar you have trained the whole summer for this opportunity. This route is hard and right now you gotta get out of this party and meet Ambrose pronto or else you won't be able to climb this route for a long time.

In the end I ended up following my responsible mind, but I left Seattle too late and ended up meeting Ambrose at 2am. We tried to set up the cars on Slesse (which involved driving under fallen trees, backing from dead-end roads in the middle of nowhere, and a lot of navigation using a map of the area while it was completely dark). By the time we were done with the cars it was 4:30am or so. This was already too late since a late start would have meant setting up a bivy  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way up the wall and not getting back to Seattle until late Monday afternoon (and that was assuming we climbed at a good speed). Ambrose needed to head back on Monday to teach the ICC class. I however was still trying to convince him to go up the mountain and that he was just going to be a little late for the ICC on Monday. In the end Ambrose was being very responsible and decided that it involved too much risk.

As we sat in the car contemplating other options, I suggested to Ambrose to drive to Squamish and climb the Grand Wall. He had been talking about doing the route for his second time and leading up the hard pitches. I was surprised to hear him accept the offer especially since each of us had slept less than 2 hours. I arrived at the

parking lot for the Grand Wall at 8am and got an extra 40 minutes of sleep while I waited for Ambrose to meet me (turns out he had taken a break for sleep in Chilliwack).

Since we didn't know if we had enough time, or were strong enough to climb the whole route we decided to bypass the first two pitches of the Grand Wall Lite. This way we would not climb a 5.10b and 5.9 and try to save our strengths for the 5.11a pitches high on the route.



View from the bottom of the route

We decided to split the pitches in such a way that Ambrose would lead up the two 5.11a pitches (Perry's Lieback and Sword of Damocles) and one short 5.10b pitch while I would lead the 5.9, 5.10b (The Split Pillar), 5.10a, and 5.10c pitches. We thought that this would guarantee that Ambrose would stay as fresh as possible for leading the hard pitches.



Ambrose leading up the first 5.10b. (Pitch 3)

Pitch 3 of the route felt a little hard and somewhat thin on the gear. But pitch 4 was the total opposite. This was the perfect hand crack.



Me on the split pillar 5.10b. Awesome pitch!!!! (Pitch 4)

Once we reached pitch 5 (Sword of Damocles), Ambrose took the lead. This pitch involved doing a traverse from one crack to another crack. However it is difficult to place the protection on the second crack unless you are fully committed to moving to the second crack. As I was belaying Ambrose, he asked for a take. I pulled in the rope and snap! Ambrose was falling. A cam he had just placed popped out and a nut just below him had taken his fall. I was glad his nut placement was bomber.



Ambrose doing the traverse on the Sword of Damocles 5.11a. This was the hardest pitch of the whole route since it was all trad and exposed. Serious exposure!!!! (Pitch 5)

After Ambrose finished his hard pitch, it was my turn and I climbed up the bolt ladder to the belay of Perry's lie back. Bolt ladders are so much easier than 5.11a pitches. Jajajaja. Too bad for Ambrose, good and easy for me.



Me aid climbing the bolt ladder. Above me is the Perry's Lieback (5.11a). (Pitch 6)



This is an exposed hanging belay just above the Sword of Damocles (Pitch 6)



Ambrose at the start of the Perry's Lieback (5.11a). This pitch could be led as a bolt ladder but Ambrose freed the pitch (although he had to take on almost every bolt). (Pitch 7)



Ambrose leading Perry's Lieback. (Pitch 7)



View from the belay station for Perry's Lieback (Pitch 7)



View of Squamish from the belay station for Perry's Lieback (Pitch 7)

After I followed Perry's Lieback, I lead the final two pitches of the route. This involved a 5.10a slabby pitch with enough protection to make it safe but not enough to avoid a major pendulum. The last pitch was an amazing 5.10c undercling traverse. Finally we had finished the route about 9 – 10 hours after we had started, completely dehydrated, tired, and sleepy. GOOD TIMES!!!!



Bellygood Ledge. This is the catwalk for the descent. You do not want to fall here. (Top of pitch 9)



Ambrose and me at the top of the trail head ready for the way back down.

After coming down, we went for dinner at a local restaurant and drank some beer. I was still amazed we had been able to pull that off given our very tired conditions on that morning. We parked our cars someplace in Squamish and went to sleep. That was some of the best sleep I have ever gotten.

This is without a doubt the best route I have ever been on until now. It is hard (at least at my level), exposed, clean and completely safe (as long as your pro placements are good). It is still amazing that people can climb the 5.13 variations of the route. I have to give thanks to Ambrose for leading the hard pitches on the route, and for adapting to the mishap on Slesse. As for Navigator Wall, I guess there is always next summer to do it.

Be safe,  
Oscar Montoya

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# ***I drove, He Slept; the Complete North Ridge of Mount Stuart***

Oscar Montoya: Rope gun; Robert Fisher: Teller of Lies; 8/11/2007-8/12/2007

I wake up.

I look at the clock on my nightstand. The cheerful green LED reads 3:20. The lack of ambient light in the room leads me to believe it's 3:20 am, exactly 10 minutes before the cheerful green LED read out was supposed to trigger the obnoxious buzzer to wake me up.

"-expletive deleted-" I mutter to no one in particular.

Forty minutes later Oscar arrives. He is only a little more coherent than I am.

"O-Scar! How are you feeling?" I asked, already knowing the answer.

"Tired."

I drove, he slept.

We arrive at the trailhead at 6:00 am.

The hike in to Ingalls Lake is unremarkable except for the sighting of a pine marten that scampered into a tree and then posed for photos. The photos are dark and uninteresting like this one:

From the lake, we traverse onto the shoulder heading East to Goat Pass. At the pass, we meet up with a group of ICC students on their Alpine 4 trip. We tell the requisite jokes that call into question each other's manhood. The students with their instructor set off across the glacier. Oscar and I pick our way down cliffs and boulder field to the base of the North Ridge. We left the car six hours ago.



Pine Marten Oscar Montoya photo

We took a nap at the base of the route. That's right, a nap. We didn't nap out of disregard for the time it would take to climb the long route ahead of us. We napped out of respect for it.

Oscar identified the beginning of the route from photos that he had seen online. My complete lack of preparation removed any possibility of differing opinion.

"Looks nasty" I said

"You can do it" replied Oscar. He is clearly more convinced than I am. The lower section goes quickly. The crack widens and my progress stops.

"Oscar, I can't even get in the slot. I need to leave the pack"

I clip my pack on a piece and try again. I manage to get a tenuous arm bar to hold in the crack long enough for my foot slip.

"-expletive deleted- this is -expletive deleted- hard!"

I try again with the arm bar with much the same effect. I'm jammed in a slot, thinking that I will epic on this route because I suck at off widths. A thought hits me. I fumble with the rack and get the #3 cam out. I try the arm bar again and place the #3 in a crack above my head. I pull on the piece to get by the nasty slot. A man without pride has no boundaries. The rest of the pitch goes without much ado.

The crux pitch is next. Oscar is on the sharp end. I would find out why Oscar had taken a while on this pitch as I followed. It starts out as a solid finger crack on a fairly low angle slab. As the pitch continues, the rock steepens, the crack flares and becomes more shallow. It is fun and sustained. I would rate it 5.9+/5.10. This pitch is the only reason to climb the complete North Ridge.

The other fixed pitches on the lower ridge are cake. We tie in short and begin the long running belay. The terrain varies greatly from 5.6 to scrambling over loose blocks and dirt. After a few hours Oscar leads us into the slot which would be the scene of a very cold night.



Oscar and Robert at the bivy. Oscar Montoya photo

There isn't much fanfare in camp when there isn't any water and there isn't a stove. We sit. We eat. We urinate, not necessarily in that order or quite that coordinated, but it happened. Oscar and I roll out our bivy sacks and sleeping pads. Neither of us had a sleeping bag. It was a warm evening and we were expecting a fairly pleasant night. This is not how it went down.

Light clouds began blowing through at sunset. I doze off, packed tightly in my green bag, blissfully unaware of the frigid weather blowing in.

I awake with a start. It is very cold. Peeking outside, I see snow flurries twirling around in the dim moonlight. Everywhere the bivy touches my body a flare of cold erupts, sending me into a shivering fit. I pull in my excess gear to use as spacers between my body and the ambivalent cold. This works for a while. I fall asleep.

I wake up again, shivering. I remember Doug Sanders' theory about cold bivies. He said that you should get up and move around to generate some heat, then sleep for a while. There is no way on god's green earth that I was leaving my bivy sack to do battle with the cold and snow in its own terms. I would have to generate some heat inside the sack.

A cramp pulls my stomach to the side, feeling like a spawning salmon is flipping inside my abdomen. The cold chili that I ate for dinner was producing the predictable digestive consequences. My gut rumbles.

"ffffrraaapppphhh"

A blast of heat fills my bivy sack in the mountaineer's equivalent of peeing in a wetsuit. Stewing in my own funk, I fall asleep warm and happy for a moment.

The rest of the night followed a predictable pattern of shivering, adjusting my limited insulation, and moving to generate heat. It was "character building".

It's light outside. I peak out of my bag to see Oscar standing above his bivy jumping up and down.

"Let's do this" he says

"-expletive deleted-"

Cold boots are tugged over clammy socks. Damp bivy sacks are shoved into packs. Climbers are shaking uncontrollably.

It takes about 30 minutes of climbing over the rock before we are warm and arrive at the Great Gendarme. People always want to know about the next two pitches, the crux of the upper North Ridge.

Gendarme, Pitch 1, Liebackfest - This pitch has three great rest spots on it, lessening the intensity of the pump. These three rests let you do some tricky conservative climbing. You can lead up halfway, set a piece and come back down to the ledge to shake out. On the second try, climb past and stop at the next ledge. This pitch is similar to the first bit of Toxic Shock at Index, except it's three times longer.

Gendarme, Pitch 2, OMG! OW! - This is not as big a deal as some would have you think. The long leftward traverse to get to the off width was more frightening than the off width itself. You can place a #3 just below the OW, then a #4 (if you brought one) in the wide section. A fixed #4 is right beside a decent jug leading to easier climbing. This off width is similar to the start of Aries on the Lower Town Wall at Index.

Hauling packs up the gendarme is highly recommended. On the second pitch, the leader should stop at the first belay pod. You can drop a loop of rope straight down to the follower at the previous belay and bring the packs up.

It just so happens that the ICC crew were climbing the original North Ridge route as Oscar and I are finishing up the off width pitch. Jared took some amazing pics of two Alpine Hardmen in action.



The Offwidth Pitch of the Great Gendarme Jared Vandergriend Photo



Looking back at the ICC group Oscar Montoya photo

After passing the hard bits, Oscar and I are in turbo simul-climbing mode. Temperatures rise slowly as the morning progresses. A few rope lengths below the summit, we remove our puffy coats. After two days and many pitches, climbing has become a reflex, not a deliberate motion. Grab, push, step, pull. Step, push, grab, step.

The final challenge on route is the top-out. A roof-ish hand crack greets anyone who seeks the summit from the north. Oscar takes a while working out the moves on lead with a running belay. As always, he moves with fluidity and confidence through the tricky terrain. Once I arrive at the hand crack, I am struck with an overwhelming and amazing stench. An inhuman wave of feces, BO, and rot assails my nose causing my eyes to water. The provenance of the stink is unknown. I was not going to investigate something like that.

Once on the summit, we chat with the group from the ICC and a few other guys who slogged up the Chossadian Couloir, which we were about to descend.

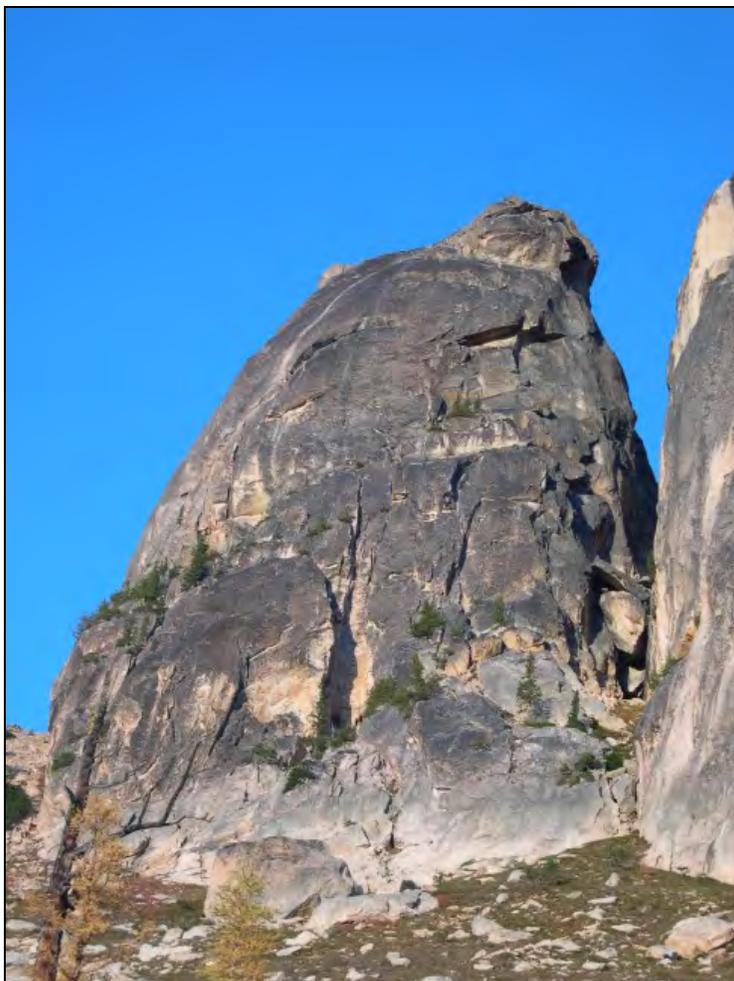
The North Ridge of Stuart is a challenging and interesting route. I don't think I would recommend the Complete North Ridge to many people. It adds two quality pitches and a few hours of low quality running belays. The money pitches are up high; the 5.6 face crack, the hand traverse, and the Great Gendarme are why you want to climb this route, not the shallow flaring finger crack on the lower ridge.

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# ***NW Corner and West Face of North Early Winter Spire***

By Oscar Montoya

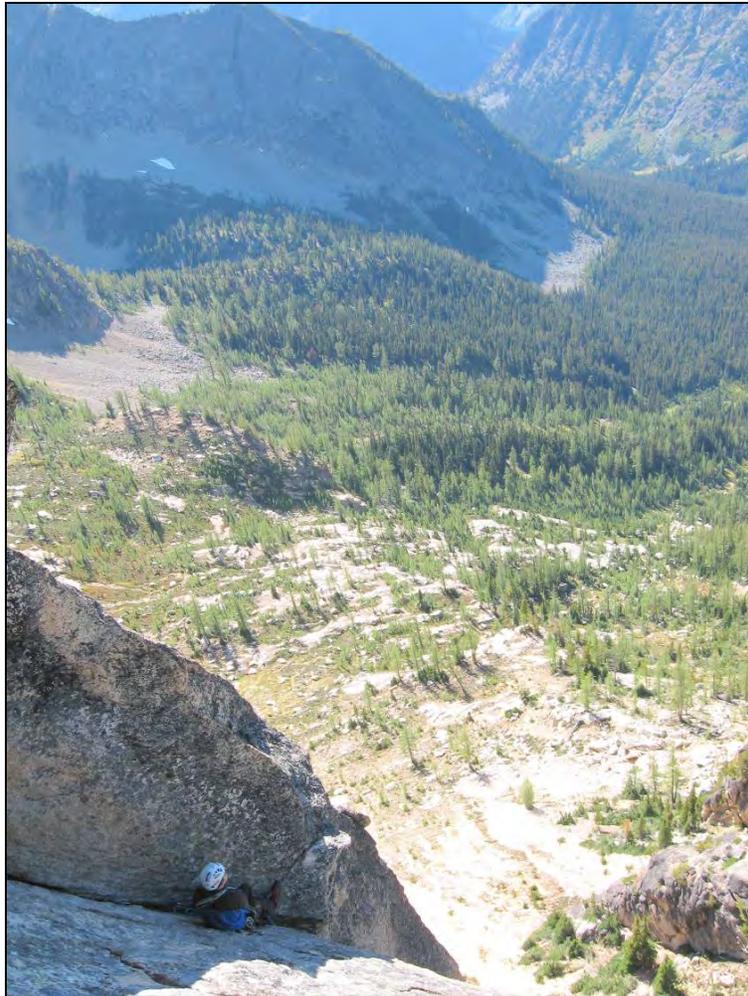


West Face of NEWS. [www.summitpost.org](http://www.summitpost.org)

Emily Vinding Nyden, Ambrose Bittner, Kathy Hasegawa and I, climbed on the weekend of September 9 two amazing routes on North Early Winter Spire, the North West Corner of NEWS, and the west face of NEWS. The idea had actually started way back in early May when Ambrose and I were in an ICC outing with some students in the Washington Pass area. On the way down to the cars, Ambrose pointed to NEWS and said "There is supposed to be an awesome route over there". That very night back in my house, I started digging on the internet for this mysterious route that had been pointed to by Ambrose. After drinking several cups of tea, and one beer, I came upon not one, two or three.....but 10+ trip reports mentioning the West Face of NEWS. The rating came at 5.11- in some websites, or 5.10d/ 5.9 A1 in the Beckey guide book, and 5.10c by some guy who had climbed in Yosemite and said that this was nothing like a 5.11 Yosemite. After learning about the rating, I knew that if I was going to try it, I was going to need aiders just in case I could not free climb the route.

Fast forward 4 months: Emily (not yet familiar with the concept of offwidth) asked me if I'd do the NW corner (5.9 offwidth) with her for the BRC grad climb. I consented, on the condition that she'd do the west face with me the next day after doing the NW Corner. Well, long story short it rained so we ended up going to Smith Rock. However my motivation for NEWS did not wane. This route was a classic that had to be climbed. Two or three weeks later I convinced Emily that we still had to try those two routes. Furthermore we enlisted Ambrose and Kathy as a second team for emotional support in case we failed. The weather was supposed to be good for the weekend (a rarity this summer) and on Saturday we started our hike up from Washington Pass to the bottom of NEWS.

The first objective was to climb the NW Corner of NEWS to get a feel for the rock and grading. Emily and I would climb first, while Kathy and Ambrose would follow. Emily led the first pitch 5.8. There was nothing too special about it except that there was a chimney. We reset the anchor further up, and to the left of the route. At this point I took the lead and started on the second pitch 5.8. This pitch has the “5.8 layback” section. I have climbed 5.9s that were easier than this section, but it was easily protected by a #4 BD cam. Emily followed me but unfortunately fell at the 5.8 layback (for which Ambrose later reprimanded her with a stern “come ON—you shouldn’t have fallen on *that*”). She however quickly went back to work, and styled the layback with no problem.



Ambrose belaying from the top of the off-width. (Pitch 3)

The next pitch I talked Emily into trying to lead. This is the 5.9 offwidth. I figured that this would be a good way for Emily to get an idea for what an offwidth is. The technique that I told her to use to protect the pitch was to walk the #4 and #5 cam up the crack in order for her to stay safe. As she started the crack she fought and jammed her whole arm in, wrestle her whole leg into the crack, and screamed some (clearly identifying us to friends from BRC who were climbing Liberty Bell at the same time). After some time, she told me to lower her down. I wasn’t too disappointed since rarely can someone lead up their first off width (especially if it is a 5.9 off width). I was also disappointed since I would have to do the grunting, screaming, jamming, bleeding up the route as a leader. I am just gonna say that I grunted, screamed, and talked to myself (come on Oscar don’t be a wuss, be strong, ohh crap I am about to fall, ok now I am ok, dang it, why couldn’t Emily had lead this so that I could just relax). I finally got up the pitch and Emily followed me. Emily decided that she hated the offwidth and instead climbed the pitch as a face climb, traversing to the crack when needed to collect the gear. Trust me!!!!, it is my personal opinion that as a leader you do not want to do this, use the crack!!!. While all of this commotion was going on, Ambrose was looking at Emily and me as a couple of n00bs. Ambrose was initially worried since all our grunting was out of control. However Ambrose styled the off width with no problems, and Kathy followed with several takes, but she managed to get up the thing. The last pitch was a 5.9 which Emily led in style without falls. It was an awkward set of cracks that made you work your feet. Afterwards we simul-climbed to the very top of NEWS and waited for Ambrose and Kathy to finish.



Emily leading the 5.9 (Pitch 4). Notice the lack of protection at the start of the pitch.

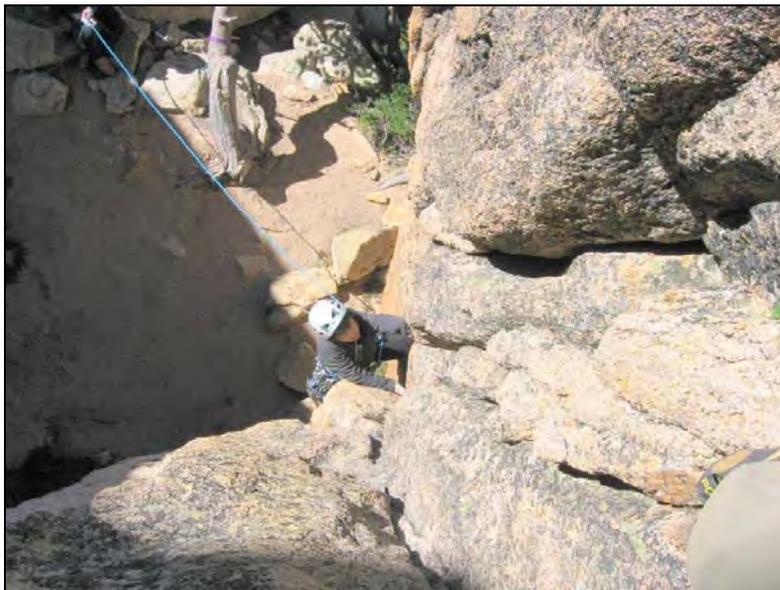
After about 30 minutes Ambrose and Kathy came up and we finally could start our rappel down to the bottom of the gully and finally walk down to the car.



Kathy doing the free rappel of NEWS.

We camped near Mazama that night after eating in town. The next day we had breakfast near Mazama and headed up to the parking lot on Washington Pass. Since we were going to try the harder route, I was thinking of bringing my aiders in case I could not free climb the route. However Ambrose dared me not to bring them. I took on the challenge and decided not to bring my aiders, but I did bring my #5 BD cam just in case (BTW it was really useless). We started hiking up around 9am.

The west face of NEWS has the same start as the NW Corner of NEWS. Once again Emily led the initial 5.8 pitch. Then she led the second awkward 5.8 pitch. She styled this pitch even though her foot got stuck at one point while climbing the crack and her last piece of protection was several feet below her. She kept a cool head and pulled through.



Kathy leading pitch 2 of the West Face 5.8.

The third pitch was a 5.9 that I led. The start of this pitch features an unprotected off width sized layback that goes for 10 feet or so. This pitch also features a really cool exposed undercling traverse. This was a scary part for me since the exposure of this pitch is pretty big. Finally we arrived to Pitch 4, the 5.10c pitch. I really had to concentrate on this pitch. The crux is the very start of the thin crack. I had to take here while I figured the moves for the crack. A couple of minutes later I started climbing but unfortunately I didn't do a traverse at the right place and kept climbing up the finger crack. I realized my mistake and started down climbing to the correct place to do a traverse.



Me at the start of the crux pitch (I was very scared) (Pitch 4)



This is the definition of stitching up a route when you are scared of falling (Notice the absurd amount of gear in the crack) (Pitch 4)

The next pitch was a fun more sustained 5.10a/b. Emily and I thought that this was really a 5.10a crack with bomber protection. The last pitch was a 5.7 that took us to the top.



Emily on the 5.10a crack. The crack is steep at first and then eases out towards the top. (Pitch 5)



This is Ambrose freeing the crux pitch of the West Face in style (Pitch 4)

Overall this was a very cool trip with awesome people. This was also Emily's first alpine climb. The routes are exceptionally clean and the views are great. My only problem with the route is that if the day is cold, the rock has a tendency to be very cold even during the summer. One way to avoid cold fingers is to use hand warmers in your chalk bag. I know it is not exactly the hard man way of dealing with cold (some climbers would disapprove of such weak climbing techniques), but it keeps my hands warm. Other than that, I would strongly suggest climbing these two routes to anyone who enjoys climbing clean cracks in the alpine environment.

Be safe,  
Oscar Montoya

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# CONSERVATION CORNER

## CLEANING UP DEVIL'S BASIN... AND BOEALPS' REPUTATION

By François Godcharles

When I moved to Seattle and took the BCC class in 2005, I remember vaguely hearing instructors joking about "that class outing" where students were made to carry "presto" logs up to Devil's Lake and having a giant bonfire there at camp. I remember thinking that this was probably a thing of the past, a lost tradition from the old days when there were not so many climbers out in the wild and the wilderness could recover from such a careless act. It didn't cross my mind again that year, as the snow level was so drastically low that the BCC sought out alternate locations for the snow camp outing.

The following year though, I was a junior instructor with the BCC, the snow pack was back to normal and we returned to Devil's Lake for the snow camp overnight outing. I remember being shocked that Wednesday night prior to the outing, as were many students, at hearing team leaders instruct their students to make sure to pack presto logs. Surely everyone heard the same "Leave No Trace" lecture as I did and will not go through with this, I thought. Well, lo and behold, I found myself that weekend staring helplessly at a burning pit of presto logs spitting black fumes into the night air and melting out a giant infernal crater in otherwise pristine snow. We no doubt left our mark that weekend, and the following one, and my lingering thought as I was hiking down the basin was that, as mountaineering instructors, we could definitely find a better way to teach environmental awareness to the next generation of climbers taking our class...



View of Devils Lake basin looking north towards Devils Thumb (BoeAlpS winter campsite in the foreground) (8 July 2007)

As it turns out, 2006 ended up being the last year of the bonfires at Devil's Lake. This past year, the BCC wisely opted to do away with the practice, and adhere to the "Leave No Trace" ethics. Hats off and many thanks to Jerry for going through with this change. There was only one thing still nagging at my consciousness: The Washington Trail Association web site, in their Trail Guide pages, still had that description of the Devil's Lake trail:

"The trail ends here, but you can go cross country to the lake in a short time. Go to the left around the rock cliffs near the creek and head upstream to the basin between Devils Peak and Devils Thumb. Campsites available at the lake, numerous blueberries in season, and Boealps Climbing Class camp remnants if you know where they have their spring campsite."

Were there really remnants of our passage there, so easily identifiable by hikers passing by? Did we really scar permanently the landscape with our annual winter camps there, so that hikers could use it as a trail marker? I had to find out. I was not looking forward to it, though, as I had heard numerous reports of miserable bushwacking awaiting the summer hiker going up to Devil's Lake...

Nevertheless, last July, with a free weekend on hand, good weather in the forecast, and a clear determination to get this done, I set out for Devil's Lake on a day trip to find the remnants of the Boealps winter camps. I will skip the details of the hike up, which is a story in itself. Let me just say that the stories are true and the bushwacking is horrible... unless you find the faint trail that goes up there and are able to follow it diligently (of course, I didn't...). Perseverance paid off and, after several hours of cursing at various species of plant life scratching my limbs, I finally emerged on the familiar landscape of the basin.

After a Cliff bar and a moment's rest to take in the wilderness, I started exploring the area. First, I scoped out the top of the knoll, just south of the flat spot where most teams usually camp. The vegetation there seemed to grow happily and undisturbed. I came upon an old deformed nalgene bottle, and a half-disintegrated Jiffy-Pop foil container: OK, which one of you left that up there? Other than that, nothing.

The lower flat spot was more difficult to ascertain. It is actually pretty swampy in summer, as the water runout from the lake seems to enjoy lingering in that flat spot. Stagnating water and moss aside, all there also seemed in reasonably untouched state. I did come upon the remnants of a campfire, but this seemed recent and obviously not from our winter camps. I found more trash here and there, but who's to say if it came from Boealps or other hikers? The main piece was an old tarp that I had to half dig out of the ground and fight off with ants before running away with it. I was feeling pretty good, in an odd sort of way, about gathering all this trash. Then I stopped, realizing that the day was growing long, and I had to carry this shit back down.



View further into the basin, where old tarp was found



Various trash and items found and carried out

I took a few more pictures of the overall scene, satisfied that Boealps had not, in my opinion, left behind any permanent scars on this "lost continent" of a basin. I packed up the trash and headed back down, finding the trail this time and actually making pretty good time back to the main trail.

With photos and report in hand, I finally contacted Washington Trail Association, with the help of our esteemed Conservation Chair Len K. (the man knows everybody and their mother for cryin' out loud...). As a result, the trail description on their web site now reads:

"The trail ends here, but you can go cross country to the lake in a short time. Go to the left around the rock cliffs near the creek and head upstream to the basin between Devils Peak and Devils Thumb. Campsites

available at the lake and numerous blueberries in season. A way trail can be found in the lakes region but it appears this area gets very little visitation."

No longer any mention of Boealps remnants. Done. I sleep better these days, knowing that a dark chapter of the club's history (!) is passed and we can look ahead to practicing what we preach as far as leaving no trace. Let's face it: if we as a climbing force in the Northwest take on the task of teaching new climbers how to play safely in the mountains, we must also teach them to respect those wild places where we are but visitors. Many of the areas we go to are no longer wild or difficult to access, and it is more important than ever to leave no trace there, so that generation after generation can peak out of their tents at sunrise and feel like pioneers.

Leave no trace, whether in a designated wilderness area or in a city park.  
Enjoy the wild, and let others enjoy it too, just as you found it.  
Long live the bonfire-free BCC.

Thanks,  
François G.



View of BoeAlpS winter campsite looking west (8 July 2007)

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→ *YOUR TRIP REPORT AND PHOTOS (YES, YOU !!!!)*

→ *THE ANSWER TO THE ULTIMATE QUESTION OF LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND ALL ELSE*

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# BOEALPS 2008 Membership Application

ALL FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY SIGNED AND DATED. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY AND LEGIBLY IN BLOCK LETTERS. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED. PLEASE ATTACH YOUR PAYMENT TO THE APPLICATION FORM. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IS VALID FROM 1 JANUARY 2008 TO 31 DECEMBER 2008.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (Non-Boeing E-Mail only): \_\_\_\_\_

BOEING REFERENCE: \_\_\_\_\_ BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Mail Code: \_\_\_\_\_

- Individual Member**    \$25    Boeing employees and contractors. Government, customer, contract, and vendor personnel assigned full time to support the company, subject to Boeing Recreation approval.
  
- Individual Associate**    \$25    Individuals (other than retirees) who voluntarily terminated their employment or individuals who were previously employed by the company and terminated due to a reduction in force. Additionally, former employees must have been employed by the company and been active members of the club for which they are seeking associate membership for a minimum of 3 consecutive years immediately prior to their application for associate membership.
  
- Individual Retiree**    \$20    Company retiree in accordance with IRS definition
  
- Family Membership**    \$30    Family membership is available to Boeing employees, retirees and associate members who wish to include their spouse and dependents, as determined by the IRS, or domestic partner, as defined by Boeing. Each family pays for one membership and gets one vote, but each participating family member must complete a release of liability form. The member name and contact information provided above will be considered the main point of contact for all club related communications. Please list additional family members below and provide a signed release of liability form for each:

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

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and payment to **Andrea Vandehey** at MS 02-FK or 3601 115th St SE, Everett, WA 98208

# BOEALPS 2008 Release of Liability for Guest / Volunteer / Family Member

ALL FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY SIGNED AND DATED. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY AND LEGIBLY IN BLOCK LETTERS. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (Non-Boeing E-Mail only): \_\_\_\_\_

BOEING REFERENCE (if applicable): BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Mail Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest**

- Student - BCC Basic Mountain Climbing Class
- Student - BRC Basic Rock Climbing Class
- Student - ICC Intermediate Mountain Climbing Class
- Participant - Climb, seminar, or other Boealps activity

**Volunteer**

- Instructor - BCC Basic Mountain Climbing Class
- Instructor - BRC Basic Rock Climbing Class
- Instructor - ICC Intermediate Mountain Climbing Class
- Instructor / Helper - Climb, seminar, or other Boealps activity

**Family Member**

- Please list Boealps member who applied for family membership :  
\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), 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.

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and payment to **Andrea Vandehey** at MS 02-FK or 3601 115th St SE, Everett, WA 98208

## BOEALPS 2008 Change of Address Form

ALL FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY SIGNED AND DATED. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY AND LEGIBLY IN BLOCK LETTERS. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (Non-Boeing E-Mail only): \_\_\_\_\_

BOEING REFERENCE (if applicable): BEMS ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Mail Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and payment to **Andrea Vandehey** at MS 02-FK or 3601 115th St SE, Everett, WA 98208

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IN THIS PUBLICATION DO NOT  
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ALPINE ECHO



*If you have any submissions—anything vaguely mountaineering or outdoors related will do—email them to us at [editor@boealps.org](mailto:editor@boealps.org), or give one of us a call (our numbers are on the front cover) and we'll arrange something!*