



Alpine Echo

The Boeing Employees Alpine Society
www.boealps.org

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BELAY STANCE

Hello climbers,

It has been a hot summer in the mountains, and wildfires have already closed some area access roads. Be safe out there, and be sure to check the current status of the area you're planning on hiking & climbing in before you head out!

Climb on,

The Editor

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at the Blue Star Café (4512 Stone Way N, Seattle, 98103).

All BOEALPS members and participants are welcome.



Announcements

Bobaby Campout!

When: Friday, August 17 (3:00 PM) - Sunday, August 19 (2:00 PM)

Where: 8-mile Campground Group Campsite, Icicle Creek, Leavenworth, WA

It's time once again for the annual Bobaby Campout. This is THE car camping outing for parents who actually still climb, who would like to climb, who have never climbed but have a spouse/partner who does, and those who have vague recollections of climbing before parenthood struck!

Come hang out for a weekend with fellow and former Boealpers for a fun time telling stories of past climbs, current plans for climbs, stories of what funny/embarrassing things your child has said or done, funny/embarrassing things your partner has said or done, kid chasing, and possibly even a bit of climbing! Kids range in age from teenagers to babies and the great thing is they tend to run around in a pack at the campground, so the older ones look after each other and only a couple of parents are needed to watch the posse of wee ones. There is actually time to have conversations with some of the other parents - no guarantee they won't be uninterrupted conversations, though.

Bring climbing gear, bicycles for the kids, and swim wear for the pool in Leavenworth and the small beach at the other end of the campground. Boealpers without children are welcome to attend, as long as you have a high tolerance for noise and chaos and don't mind an early bedtime.

There will be a potluck breakfast Sunday morning consisting of pancakes, fruit, sausage and bacon, juice, and LOTS of coffee. If you want to participate in the breakfast, please RSVP to Steve Behrend (steven.d.behrend@gmail.com).

Trip Report

A Change of Plans on Eldorado Peak - June 17, By Chris Stubel

The plan was to climb Eldorado Peak in a day, camping at the Eldorado trailhead Saturday night and starting the climb at first light on Sunday morning. I drove up separately on Saturday afternoon to take some pictures of Diablo Lake at sunset and then meet the team at the trailhead. I got the pictures and then proceed to drive to the trailhead to camp. The drive from the lake to the trailhead is about 1.5 hours, with the last 45 minutes of that on the gravel and heavily washboarded Cascade River Road.

At 10:30pm I'd been driving up Cascade River Road for about 40 minutes when I came across a Ford SUV right on the edge of the road at the bottom of a switchback. An elderly lady standing outside waves me down. I stop and rolled down my window to ask if she was ok. She seems disoriented and said that she needed help. I parked and went over to her. She was very old, had trouble standing, gripping anything with her hands, and had ankle braces on both her legs. I also notice that the truck was about a foot or two away from going off the edge of the road. She says that as she was coming down the hill, the whole car died and she somehow managed to brake just before going off the edge.

I examine the car and it's completely dead. I suspect the battery and attempt to jump it. After charging it for a while it still wouldn't start. I try everything but the truck is completely dead, probably shaken to death by the washboards on the road.

The time at that point was 11pm. I talk to her and learned that she lives in *Twisp* (next town east of Winthrop) and was currently on her way back from the bank!?!? I concluded that she missed the sharp left on HWY20 right after Marblemount and proceeded all the way to the top of Cascade River road. On the way back down her truck died and she skidded to a stop at the end of a switchback. I have no cell service and realized that I would have to take her back down the gravel road to Marblemount to find a land line and get her help. I put her in my truck and we begin the 45 minute descent. On the way down I ask what her name is. Her name is Dusty, and she's 74 years old.

At 11:45pm we reach Marblemount. It's a complete ghost town. All four businesses are closed and I still don't have service. We keep driving until I finally get service near Concrete. At this point my only option is to call the police. I had found out that her husband passed away 5 years ago and she lives by herself. She has some family but none in the area. Her phone is dead and I don't have a cable to charge it and she can't remember any phone numbers. The police are surprisingly unhelpful. They say that they can't hold her for the night, nor can they drive her back to her house since she wasn't having an emergency, just car trouble. Their advice is to find a hotel to put her in for the night and the next morning she can get a tow truck to retrieve or fix her car. The operator gives me a few phone numbers of hotels and tow trucks and says good luck.

12:30am. All the hotels in the area are closed. Everything is closed. There's no one anywhere. I'm coming to the realization that I'm going to have to make a midnight run of HWY 20 to take her home. So that's what I do. I queue up some electronic music to stay awake, and Dusty and I set off on the three hour drive over the pass, Concrete to Twisp.

1:30am. We're a third of the way through the drive. She's complaining of a huge headache and starting to act a little strange. I feed her some of my summit treats, Snickers bars and Swedish fish. She wants some fresh air so I show her where the window switch is and she rolls it all the way down. Freezing air from outside rushes in but I utilize my trucks dual climate control to keep my side of the car toasty warm.

2:30am. She's having arguments with people who obviously aren't in the car with us. Church politics or something. I think she dozed off and was talking in her sleep. (I would later find out from her family that she suffers from dementia)

3:30am. We finally reach her house. It's a house up on a hill a little ways out of central Twisp. I find out that she can't walk up the front porch stairs to the door of the house due to her ankles. Normally she would park in her garage which is level with the rest of the house but the garage remote control is in her car. So I have to go into the house to open the garage from the inside. She gives me the keys and I shakily open the front door. Inside it's your typical horror film house, musky smell, dusty and unorganized, pitch black and I can't find any of the light switches. I'm stumbling around using my iPhone light, opening doors looking for the garage. I come across a door in the corner of the room and open it. A skeleton falls onto me, pinning me to the ground. That actually didn't happen, but I wouldn't have been surprised if it did. I finally reach the garage and open it. Dusty comes inside and gets settled. She suggests that I stay the night and drive back home in the light. It's 3:45am and I'm exhausted so I stretch out on her couch and fall asleep.

8:00am. The house is less scary in the morning light. Dusty is grateful for all the help and makes me coffee and we talk about typical old people things for a bit while I write down some information for her like the location of her car which she says she'll make arrangements to go get. She writes me a check for gas and as I'm about to leave she asks if I'm going to go see my father for Father's Day (June 17 was Father's Day). I say yes and she pulls out a large cardboard box. She says it belonged to her husband and that I should give it to my dad. I open it and it's filled to the brim with individual packets of catheter lube. I graciously accept the gift and begin the long journey back to Seattle.



Father's Day Present



Dusty's house in the daylight

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

ALPINE ECHO



July 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: echo-editor@boealps.org

Membership Information:

Make sure to fill out an application TODAY!

Online forms can be found at: <http://boealps.org/members/> .

Membership Rates:

- Individual Membership: \$25
- Individual Associate: \$25
- Individual Retiree: \$20
- Family Membership: \$30

Benefits Include:

- Added to the Membership Mailing List
- Added to the BOEALPS Members List
- The Basic Climbing Class (BCC) offered each spring is a fantastic, fun way to learn safe climbing or a great opportunity for graduates to volunteer as an instructor.
- The Basic Rock Class (BRC) offered each summer helps you hone in your rock skills.
- The Intermediate Climbing Class (ICC) is also offered each spring. Protection, leading, ice climbing, aid climbing taught with a great instructor-student ratio and an emphasis on safety.
- The Wilderness and Remote First Aid (WRFA) certification courses are available to keep you in check with safety.
- Monthly general meetings.
- Activities including campouts, picnics, photo contests, and organized climbs.
- A Winter & Summer Climbing Series to keep the blood flowing (and the holiday pounds off).
- Seminars on rock climbing, leading, ice climbing, avalanche awareness, etc... are offered as a great way to continue learning throughout the year.
- The monthly newsletter "The Alpine Echo," featuring the club calendar, seminars, activities, photos, great climbing stories, conservation ideas, and more.
- Great exercise with wonderful people in the beautiful Cascades and beyond!

Discounts:

- Second Ascent: 10% discount on select items.
- Feathered Friends: 10% discount.
- Outdoor Research: Selected discounts.
- Pro Mountain Sports: Selected discounts.
- Mountain Hardwear: 15% discount.
- Mazama Lodge: affiliate pricing
- NOTE: A valid BOEALPS membership card is required at the time of purchase!

More Information:

- More information on the membership types as well as club documents including PRO-99, BOEALPS constitution and bylaws, and BOEALPS operating procedures can be found on line at: <http://boealps.org/members/> .

2018 Executive Board and Committees

EXECUTIVE BOARD

<i>President</i>	Dave Wheeler		exec-board@boealps.org
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